

HINTS OF OCCASION

ON A

TOUR

TO

MANHEIM, MAYENCE,
AIX LA CHAPELLE, BRUSSELS, &c.

WITH

EXPLANATIONS OF VIEWS

TAKEN ON AND NEAR THE

RIVERS RHINE, MAESE, &c.

3

By the Rev. J. GARDNOR.

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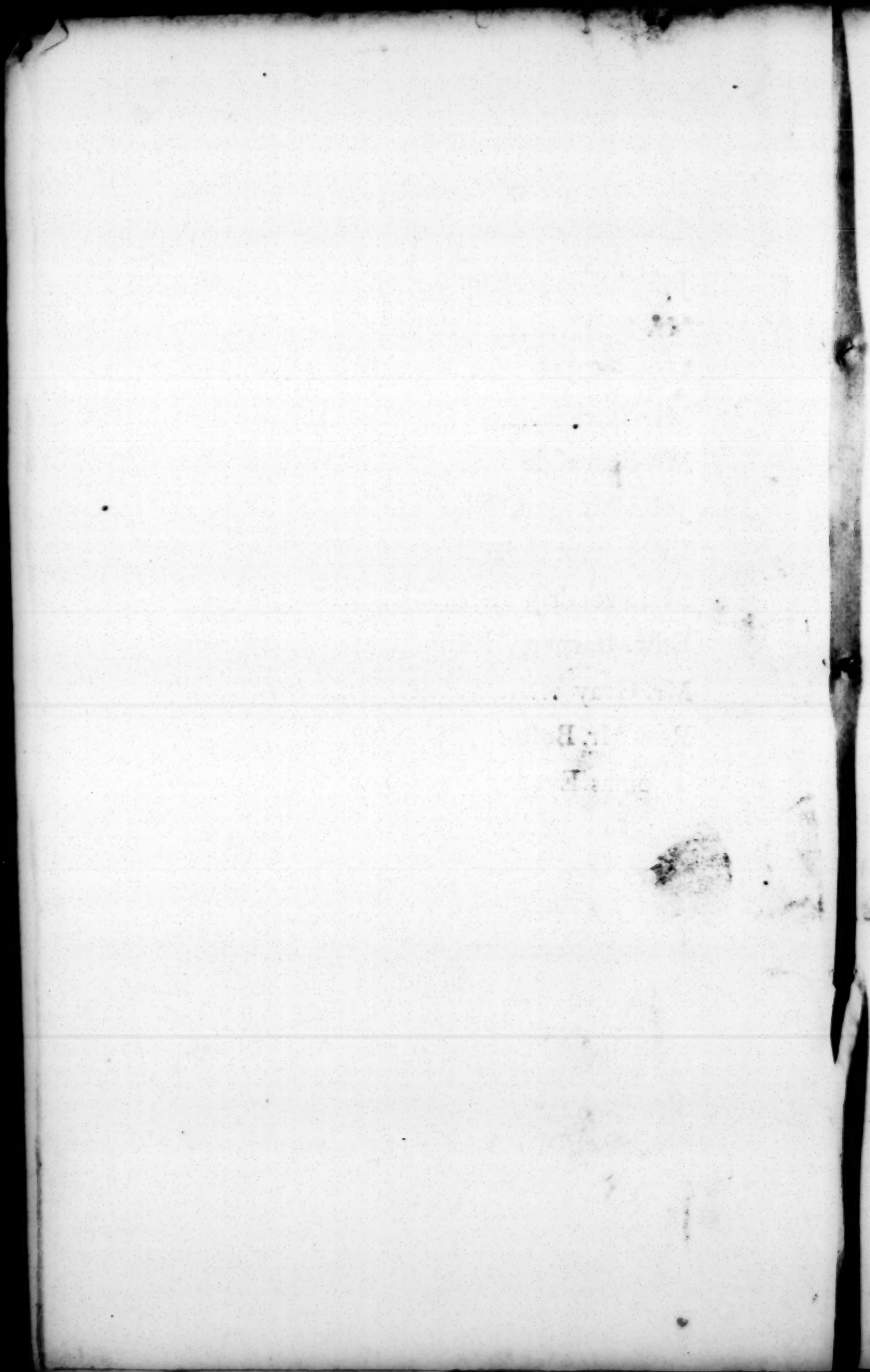
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A
S E R I E S O F V I E W S ,
T A K E N O N , A N D N E A R
T H E R I V E R R H I N E ; & c . & c .

• W I T H
H I N T S O F O C C U R R E N C E S I N T H E T O U R .

TH E Tour which is the subject of the following sheets, was not undertaken with the slightest view to a publication ; but merely in pursuit of health : which I had in vain sought in the various temperatures of English air, and by every other means that flattered me with the hope of relief. My disorder was that to which English constitutions are peculiarly subject ; and for which Physicians are as much at a loss for a name as a remedy. Having no respite from suffering ; and being reduced to a state of nervous debility that was become insupportable, and

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which for many years had defied the most skilful application of medicine, I determined to try a change of climate: and I considered it as no unfavorable omen, that in the choice of my route, my mind was irresistibly attracted to those scenes which afforded ample subjects for the indulgence of my favorite study. To survey the romantic beauties of Switzerland, and to visit the enchanting shores of the Rhine, had long been objects of my earnest desire. I had therefore no difficulty in determining what course I should take; and my disorder seemed to abate in the contemplation of acquisitions, which my imagination had already deposited in my port-folio.

My first care was to procure a travelling chaise, which was absolutely necessary to make a journey through France, tolerable in my situation. My baggage, consisting of very little more than the furniture of Sterne's portmanteau, was soon collected; and on the 16th of May, 1787, I set out for Brighthelmstone, accompanied by my nephew. Embarking in the packet, we were safely landed, after a passage of twenty-eight hours, at Dieppe. We proceeded immediately to Paris; encountering on the road the usual inconveniencies of dirty accommodations, imposing inn-keepers, and saucy postillions. It was not in my plan to remain

remain long at a place ; and being unequal to the fatigue of visiting, even the cabinets, in that city, which contain valuable works of the most eminent painters, and to which I should otherwise have devoutly paid the tribute of admiration ; we quitted Paris at the end of three days. Our journey to Geneva by way of Dijon put my patience to severe trials, and I almost repented having thrown myself in the way of inconveniencies unknown to those whose travels are confined to the roads of England : for the brutality of post-boys, and the extortions of inn-keepers on this road, exceeded those we had experienced on the road from Dieppe to Paris.

THESE inconveniencies I am persuaded are greatly owing to extravagant ideas of the wealth and prodigality of the English ; which are conceived, with some appearance of reason, from the profuse liberality, and expensive manner of living, by which English travellers distinguish themselves on the continent from those of other nations. Better health and spirits might possibly have disposed me to submit with more complacency to evils which the vanity or folly of my countrymen had produced ; but not being in a condition to endure crosses or inconveniencies, the fatigue I suffered in this journey increased my disorder,

and obliged me on my arrival at Geneva to have recourse to a Physician, and to submit to the mortification of confinement. I very much regret that the time of my continuance in that celebrated city was unavoidably devoted to my recovery; as it deprived me of the gratification of exercising my pencil on the natural beauties which combine to render its situation delightful. The subject pleased and must have greatly interested me: for the revolutions it has undergone; the conflicts it for centuries endured; and the success of its struggles for liberty, had excited my veneration; and produced that peculiar enthusiasm which is congenial to the bosoms of Englishmen, when recollecting events, in which the rights of nature have been invaded, or the champions of liberty have prevailed.

My next route being impracticable with a carriage, I disposed of my chaise at Geneva; and had the satisfaction of repairing the depredations which the French inn-keepers and postillions had made on my purse, by selling it for nine guineas more than it cost me. I did not forget on that occasion to give due credit to the civility and honesty of my coach-maker; and I regretted that my negotiations on that side the water had been with persons whose principles

ciples of dealing were very different from those of Mr. HATCHET.

My impatience to proceed, having given me a better opinion of my condition than it deserved ; we took leave of Geneva, and directed our march towards Lausanne : but Mont Blanc attracted my eye at a great distance, and though not lying immediately in my route, was too interesting an object for an artist or philosopher to be satisfied with a distant view of it. Instead therefore of pursuing the road to Lausanne, we took that which led to Chamony, a pretty village situated near the extremity of a tract of ice, that projects from the foot of Mont Blanc. This mountain, which appears to be an entire mass of ice, is by far the highest in Europe ; its elevation according to the barometrical measurement of Monsieur de Luc, being 2391 French toises, or 15303 feet perpendicular above the surface of the sea. It rises majestically amidst huge pyramids, and valleys of ice, which seem formed by nature to preclude all access to it ; and I was assured at Chamony, from whence travellers frequently make excursions towards this tremendous mountain, that no person had ever taken a nearer view of it than from the summits of the lesser mountains surrounding it. But I have lately learnt, that

Monf.

Monf. SAUSSURE has found means to surmount these difficulties, and is now occupied in exploring its desolate and inhospitable regions. I ardently hope, that in addition to the glory of accomplishing what other adventurers have found impracticable, he will escape the perils of the expedition; and have the honor of enriching natural history with the communication of his discoveries and observations.

IN the neighbourhood of this place I was reminded of a circumstance which occurred to me in the Peak of Derbyshire. In travelling through a wild but cultivated part of that country at the latter end of October, I observed an extensive piece of green oats, which the owner was surveying with much seeming satisfaction. My curiosity led me to enquire the cause of their extreme backwardness: he said "*They waited for the frost to ripen them.*" Imagining the farmer meant to be jocular, I thanked him for his information; and wishing him a good harvest, left him without seeking to be further edified. But I am now inclined to think there might be more truth than jocularity in the farmer's reply: for I here saw fields of corn which promised abundant crops, intersected, and some indeed almost surrounded by tracts of ice, which remain
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the whole summer, and from many parts of them entirely exclude the rays of the sun ; yet the corn in those places was not less luxuriant than that, which growing more distant from the shade, and chilling reflection of the ice, received the full benefit of the sun ; and I was very confidently assured, that it ripened as early, and produced as plentifully in those parts as in any other. The shade of woods, hills, or even of single trees, are universally known to give an abortive appearance to all vegetable productions ; it may therefore be imagined, without much extravagance, that ice possesses properties friendly to vegetation, which are not commonly imputed to it. And if it be allowable to presume from these premises, that the influence of ice conduces to the maturation of wheat in Switzerland, there can be no reason to doubt the efficacy of frost in ripening oats in the Peak of Derbyshire.

LEAVING Chamony, we proceeded by short stages through a great part of Switzerland, taking sketches of the most romantic and picturesque views in our way ; but as these sketches will probably furnish subjects for a future publication, I shall say no more of them ; but hasten to the banks of the Rhine, where the views contained in the present Collection were taken.

THE

THE first place we arrived at on the Rhine was Basil ; which we entered on the first of July : my health was then very indifferent, and I began to despair of finding any benefit from my tour. The morning after our arrival, we enquired for a table d'hote. We were informed there was a very excellent one ; and that dinner was always on table at twelve o'clock. We employed ourselves, the intermediate time, in strolling about the town, and selecting objects on which I might amuse myself during our stay at Basil. Having taken sufficient exercise to prepare our appetites for dinner, and the hour of twelve being very near, we returned to the inn : but to our great mortification, we were told that the company at the table d'hote had dined. On enquiring the cause of our disappointment, the waiter apologized for having omitted to inform us, that the clocks of Basil were always an hour before time. We consoled ourselves with ordering a separate dinner, and determined to profit the next day by our better information. Various causes are assigned for the adherence of the people of Basil to this singular practice. Out of these I shall select that which is most credible, and give it as stated by Mr. COXE, in his sensible and judicious sketches of Switzerland.

“ IT

“ It is well known,” says he, “ that the choirs of
“ cathedrals and churches are constructed towards the east ;
“ that of Basil declines somewhat from this direction, and
“ the sun-dial which is placed on the outside of the choir,
“ and by which the town clocks are regulated, partakes of
“ this declination ; a circumstance which, according to
“ the celebrated BERMOULI, occasions a variation from
“ the true time of above five and forty minutes. But
“ whatever may have been the original of this whimsical
“ custom, the inhabitants of Basil are so strongly attached
“ to it, that as often as it has been proposed in the
“ sovereign council to have their clocks properly regulated,
“ the motion has constantly been rejected : in reality, the
“ people would think their liberties invaded, if their clocks
“ were to go like those of the rest of the world. A few
“ years since it was secretly agreed upon by some of the
“ leading men of the town, to have the sun-dial moved
“ half a minute a day, until the shadow should impercep-
“ tibly point to the true hour. This expedient was
“ accordingly put in practice, and the town clock had
“ already lost near three-quarters of an hour, when an
“ accident discovered the plot ; and the magistrates were
“ compelled to place the sun-dial in the same position it
“ stood

“ flood before, and to have the town clock regulated by it
“ as usual.”

My nephew took care on the following day to set my watch by the Basil clocks ; and I observed, during the rest of our tour, that he regulated his own by whatever clock the hour of dinner was to be announced. We were punctual at the table d'hôte, and whilst we partook of a good dinner, were entertained by a very tolerable band of music. A collection of two-pence each was made from a company consisting of eighteen persons for the performers: they were very thankful, and went away well satisfied.

THE town of Basil, which is the capital of a Canton, is divided by the Rhine ; one part of it lying on the side of Switzerland, and the other on that of Germany.

I MADE a sketch of the town, including the bridge, by which the two parts are united. The cathedral is a large Gothic building, in good preservation, but has little else to recommend it ; being much more worthy of notice for containing the ashes of ERASMUS, than for the grandeur or beauty of its decorations. The will of that great man, written with his own hand, is preserved in the library of
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the university, and is reckoned among its most valuable curiosities. This library had formerly the reputation of being the best in Switzerland: but the greater part of the books and manuscripts, which are very numerous, being on subjects that have had their day, the value of them is greatly reduced. The room is spacious and handsome, and its furniture judiciously arranged. Among other objects of curiosity, it contains a valuable collection of medals, many fine prints, and some invaluable paintings: of the latter, the productions of HOLBEINS' pencil form a considerable part. This singular artist was born here, and being contemporary with ERASMUS, who chiefly resided at Basil, was honoured with his patronage and friendship. This town has likewise to boast, that it was the place at which the art of making paper was first discovered. Its chief articles are, wine, silk, ribbons, and gloves; in which it carries on a flourishing and extensive trade. The Basilians think their form of government the most perfect in the world: and if the satisfaction and happiness of the people; the equal distribution of justice; and the preservation of decency and good order in the community, are proofs of its excellence, they have great reason to be fond of their constitution. The privileges it confers on the lower orders of the people, must for ever secure their
allegiance

allegiance and attachment to it ; for the meanest citizen is eligible, and has an equal chance with the greatest and most opulent to obtain a seat in the sovereign councils of the republic. Indeed their method of chusing the members of their legislature, is not in speculation very favorable to the formation of a good government ; for the members of it are not chosen for their virtues, their talents, their influence, or their birth : the appointment of them is left wholly to the caprice of fortune ; who fills offices, and makes counsellors of state in the republic of Basil, in the same manner, and with as little respect to persons, as she distributes prizes in an English lottery. This fanciful method of conducting elections and bestowing offices, may sometimes have a ludicrous or inconvenient effect ; but as such accidental events neither lessen the dignity of their legislature, impede the operation, or weaken the efficacy of the laws ; the prevention of them is not worth the trouble of a thought. It might not perhaps be without its benefits, if the same practice was introduced into some countries where matters of this sort stand in great need of regulation : for it is beyond dispute, a most effectual remedy against that corruption, which defeats the noblest efforts of patriotism, and reduces the best modelled constitutions to a level with the worst.

HAVING

HAVING accomplished every purpose of our visit to Bafil, we engaged the landlord of the Three Kings, who by the way was very civil, obliging, and reasonable in his charges to assist us in procuring a conveyance down the river to Strasburg. He soon brought a waterman, but not without apprising us, that he would probably ask double the price he would take; and that his proper fare was about twenty shillings: for which I at length agreed with him, all expences being included in that sum. The distance from Bafil to Strasburg is seventy-two English miles. I omitted imprudently to examine the boat, on which the waterman bestowed great commendations; assuring us it was very commodious, and we could not fail of having a comfortable passage. At six in the morning of the third of July, we sent our baggage and provisions on board, and soon following, made our first embarkation on the Rhine. My hopes of a pleasant or convenient passage vanished at the sight of the boat; and on entering it I was convinced, that the danger would be at least equal to the inconvenience. It was built in the manner of a canoe, flat bottomed, narrow, long, and so shallow, as not to admit of a seat. It vibrated so violently, that I with difficulty kept on my legs, expecting every moment to be tumbled overboard. Being very seriously alarmed, I

eagerly

eagerly desired to be set immediately on shore, determining to proceed by some better conveyance: but the waterman being as much alarmed as myself, though from a different cause, pushed off without any regard to my threats or intreaties. Finding it impossible to regain the shore, without a struggle with the boatman, which would infallibly have overset us; we made a virtue of necessity, and seated ourselves peaceably in the bottom of the boat. The current in this part of the river was so rapid, that with the assistance only of a paddle, which the boatman used as a rudder, we made from eight to nine miles an hour.

WE had not proceeded many leagues before I was seized by a violent cramp, occasioned by the inconvenience of the posture to which my situation confined me; for not being yet freed from my apprehensions, I sat motionless, lest by inclining too much towards either side, I should destroy that exact balance of the boat, on which, in my imagination, our safety entirely depended. To add to our discomfort, we were overtaken by a violent storm of rain, accompanied by thunder and lightening. The boatman covered us with a sort of tilt, but it was so miserably thin, that in a few minutes the water came over us as through a sieve. We now made the shore, in hopes of being sheltered

ered by a grove of trees in view : but finding our situation after a short time rather worse than better, and having no means of pursuing our journey by land, we returned to the boat, in order to make the best of our way, as in either case we were equally incommoded by the storm. In about half an hour it ceased raining, and the sun at that time bursting out with great power, we were soon relieved from the inconvenience of wet cloaths : but thinking a little inward comfort would put us in still better plight, we drew out our provisions. An evil genius certainly attended us in the adventures of this day ; on examining the repository of our stores, we found the bread dissolved to pulp ; a flask of excellent hock, our intended libation to the god of the Rhine, had disappeared ; and to complete our disappointment, we had omitted to bring with us either knife, fork, or plate : having therefore no alternative but to do what was practised before knives, forks, and plates were invented, or to wait for our dinner till we reached Strasburg, we made as good use of our fingers as the nature of the repast would admit. In a very short time we were overtaken by another storm, which wetted us to the skin, and made the rest of our voyage inexpressibly uncomfortable. The country on both sides was flat and uninteresting ; and nothing occurred in the whole voyage

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to afford us a moment's amusement. We were frequently stopped by the collectors of a toll, which produces a considerable revenue to the emperor.

AT six in the afternoon we landed at a public house on the margin of the river, about a mile from Strasburg; and I have seldom experienced greater pleasure than in setting my foot on shore. Our hostess having learnt that we purposed sleeping at the Saint Esprit, at Strasburg, informed us the landlord had died that morning, and the house would consequently be shut up; she added many other arguments to induce us to pass the night at her house: but truth obliges me to confess, however dishonorable to my gallantry, that I resisted her solicitations, though she was young, sprightly, and handsome. On settling with the boatman, he pressed me for a small douceur to enable him to drink my health. I gave him half a crown in addition to his fare, which I was previously assured would be a liberal donation: but having higher expectations, he expressed his dissatisfaction in violent abuse, which would have piqued the emulation of a Thames waterman, or the driver of a hackney coach. The vocabulary of this species of brutes is, I believe, translated into all languages. Affecting to imagine I might

might have been less liberal than I intended, and desiring to examine what I had given; he returned the money without the least suspicion of my design. I then gave him the precise sum I agreed to pay; and reserving the half crown for a better occasion, left him to the just derision of the rabble his clamour had collected. Our fair hostess finding us determined to proceed, very civilly assisted us in procuring every thing necessary to convey us to Straßburg.

WE arrived at the Saint Esprit just before supper, and took our seats at the table d'hôte; meaning to make full satisfaction to our appetites for their disappointment on the voyage: but it soon appeared we had reckoned without our host; for the rest of the company in seating themselves shoved and jostled us from one place to another, till every dish on the table was beyond our reach. Our applications to the waiters were answered with insult, or treated with contempt; and nothing was brought us that we called for. When the rest of the company were satisfied, we were permitted to make a scanty meal on the fragments. My nephew during this scene gave me frequent glances, which reproached me for leaving the more hospitable roof of our fair hostess at the water-side; and I was much disposed to reproach myself. I did not learn the cause of our being

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treated with such rudeness and insolence at the table d'hôte till the next morning ; when a gentleman of Mentz, who was himself but just arrived, perceiving we were strangers, entered politely into conversation with us. On relating to him our adventure, he told us it was the custom of that house, the Saint Esprit, to supply a valet de place to every gentleman who came there, if only for a day ; and that he imagined our omitting to conform to the custom, of which we were totally ignorant, had drawn upon us the resentment of the waiters, and the contempt of the guests. I could not avoid concluding on this explanation of the matter, that the Saint Esprit, at Strasburg, was a very improper place of resort for a stranger of any nation. I gave myself just time to view the cathedral ; and I took leave of the Saint Esprit, and the city of Strasburg, with the same kind of good-will I should have felt at my escape from a horde of savages.

THE cathedral is the largest, and, I think, the finest building of the kind I ever saw ; it is of great antiquity, and possesses the peculiar honor of having none but peers of France or counts of the empire for its canons. The gates, corresponding with the stile of the building, are of brass : the ornaments with which the inside of this stupendous

dous pile is decorated, are so rich and abundant, that they astonish even those who are accustomed to the churches of France. There is, notwithstanding, a degree of neatness, elegance, and simplicity, in the tout ensemble of this church, which is very difficult to be preserved, and is seldom found in places so highly ornamented. It contains, among other things of great value, a bell that weighs nearly three tons ; in the composition of which two tons and upwards of pure silver were employed. The structure of the steeple, which is the highest in christendom, is admirable ; the form is pyramidal ; its sides have in many parts the appearance of being curiously perforated, and these perforations, if I may so call them, which are of great use in admitting light and air to the inside, contribute greatly to its outward beauty and elegance. In this steeple is fixed the celebrated clock, which besides the hours of the day, describes very correctly the motions of the planets : it is generally allowed to be a curious and wonderful piece of mechanism ; but its motion being by some accident suspended, I had no opportunity of viewing its boasted perfections. Strasburg is a place of considerable strength, and is named as the most ancient city in Germany*, but has

* It is said to have been built 2000 years before the birth of Christ.

nothing venerable in its appearance: the streets are extremely narrow, and the buildings very mean. The country round is an entire flat; destitute of those objects which commonly embellish the environs of great cities, and display the various tastes of the inhabitants.

LEAVING Straßburg, where we had the good fortune to procure a returned chaise for Mannheim, at the moderate price of one guinea and a half; we rested the first night at Lautenburg; and proceeded the next day to Landau. We made this little circuit, hoping to find the country more diversified and amusing than the shores of the Rhine, which from Straßburg to Spire are as flat and tiresome to the eye as those from Basil to Straßburg: but we gained nothing by the exchange; the same unwearied aspect presented itself the whole way. Landau is a place of considerable strength; it borders on the palatinate of the Rhine, and the possession of it has been considered by both parties, in the wars between France and the empire, as an object of great importance. The French were masters of it in the year 1688, when they desolated the palatinate, plundered and destroyed its ancient and venerable cities; and either massacred the wretched inhabitants, or drove them out of the country: and they made it the repository
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of the immense plunder they had collected ; but as if Providence disapproved the deed, the whole was consumed in the next year by an accidental fire. The horrid sequel of the revocation of the edict of Nantz was not more shocking to humanity than the cruelties practised by the French during that war, in almost every part of the palatinate ; and there are few of its cities, towns, or even villages, that do not retain such marks of their fury, as will be lasting memorials of the execrable ambition, and inhuman policy of Lewis the Fourteenth.

OUR next stage from Landau was Spire ; which again brought us to the banks of the Rhine. The fortifications of this city contribute very little to its security ; it possesses indeed no advantages at present to make it of much consideration among the cities of the empire. This is a consequence of its total destruction by the French in 1689, for till then it was the seat of the imperial chamber, or sovereign court of judicature, to which appeals were carried from the various courts of the princes of the empire ; and to which the princes themselves were amenable. This occasioned so great a resort of strangers, that the city of Spire was respectable and important. From Spire we proceeded to Manheim, which shared in the common fate
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of the cities of the palatinate: being entirely destroyed by the French in the invasion of 1688. Very little can be said at present of the grandeur or magnificence of Mannheim; but it excels any other place we had seen, except Paris, in beauty and elegance. The streets are well built, and though not perfectly regular, appear to great advantage, from their being so disposed, as to intersect each other at right angles. The fortifications are very handsome, and I apprehend, of sufficient strength to be an effectual defence in case of attack. But they seem to me to require more troops to man them, than could conveniently be detached for that purpose from the army of the palatinate, at the highest state of its war establishment. The electoral palace, which now makes a fine appearance, if finished according to the original design, would have no rival in that of any prince in christendom. But the extent of the plan, and the expence necessary to the execution of it, having been too little attended to before the building was so far advanced as to admit of no alteration, it has remained for many years in an unfinished state; and, for the same reason, there is very little probability it will ever be completed. The removal of the court from hence to Munich on the accession of the prince palatine to the dukedom of Bavaria, spread a gloom over the splendor of Mannheim, which

which nothing but the elector's return can enliven. The number of the votaries and dependents of the court, who of course followed the prince, was so considerable, that the loss of them would have been severely felt in a much more populous and extensive city. I was informed on good authority, that they amounted to some thousands ; consisting of the principal inhabitants, which, added to the almost total desertion of the nobility of the palatinate, as well as other strangers of distinction, who made occasional visits to the court, hath caused a stillness in the streets of Mannheim, more suited to the idea of a large village than the capital of a province. The inhabitants however retain the same disposition to gaiety and dissipation, and are as relaxed in their morals as when they breathed the infectious air of the court. The public buildings most worthy of notice are, the Jesuits church, which is a fine edifice, and from every approach to the town forms a striking object ; the town-house, the church adjoining it, and the market-place, which form an area that would be admired in any city of Europe. The town-house is very properly adorned with a well executed figure of Justice ; a statue representing Religion, intended as a companion to it, being fixed on the front of the church. Nor can a fitter residence be found for Religion herself than the church

church of Manheim ; which exhibits a striking proof that unity of spirit may be compatible with difference of opinion. For in this church the Romanists, Lutherans, and Calvinists, successively assemble ; no part of the Sunday being appropriated to the use of either, but each in turns giving and taking precedence in point of time. The result of this singular regulation, which is not less honorable to the liberality and wisdom of the government, than to the candor and moderation of the religious communities of Manheim, is the satisfaction of all parties, and the most perfect harmony and concord among the different sects which compose the inhabitants of the city.

I WAS so pleased with every thing I saw at Manheim, that I determined not to leave it without making as perfect and comprehensive a drawing of it from the most picturesque point of view, as the time of my stay and the state of the weather would admit. That I might not be interrupted in my operations, I acquainted General FALLIER, who commands the garrison, with my design ; and requested his permission to carry it into execution. He received me with great politeness, and apologized for being obliged to lay me under any restrictions with respect to the fortifications, of which he could not allow me to make any drawing :

ing: to the rest he readily consented. A guard-house on the opposite side of the river was the point of view which I thought most favorable to my purpose, as it took in three principal objects, *viz.* the Jesuits church, a small part of the electoral palace, and the observatory. From this place therefore I made the drawing which furnishes the subject of the first print. I cannot take leave of Manheim without observing, that it was the first place at which I could bring myself to think any entertainment could equal that of the inns and taverns of England: my accommodation at the cour palatine in that city, was in no respect inferior, excepting in the amount of their charges, to the first hotels of London.

HAVING no particular inducement to prolong our stay at Manheim, we pursued our route to Mentz, through a country as flat and destitute of entertaining objects as any we had passed. But the scene very greatly improved as we approached Mentz: the grandeur of the Rhine, which is here considerably wider than we had hitherto observed it; the boldness of distant hills which became discernible; and the beauty of the lesser eminences, cloathed with vineyards, that lay in our way, formed a rich, variegated, and delightful prospect. The conflux of the Rhine and Maine,
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which takes place about four miles on this side Mentz, is attended with a circumstance very curious and peculiar; the waters of these rivers, though rolling in one channel, do not mingle, but are distinguishable for many leagues. The situation of Mentz is wonderfully beautiful, but we found little to admire in the town; the buildings being in general mean, and the streets narrow and dirty: the fronts of the houses are coloured with a black paint or wash, that renders them gloomy and disagreeable. A few streets lately built must be excepted in this account. The churches, which are extremely handsome, some of them in a modern stile, are the only public edifices worth notice. The electoral palace, though the residence of an ecclesiastic who is inferior only to the Pope, and as a prince of the empire second only to the Emperor, is very low, and in no respect suited to the rank or revenue of its owner. The gardens are extensive and well laid out; but their chief beauty is a situation which I believe has no equal in the fictions of poetic fancy. Before we quitted Mentz we crossed the river by a bridge composed of forty-eight boats, being informed that the view of the town from the opposite shore was more beautiful than any other. As soon as we had passed the bridge, a person accosted us in the German language, which neither of us understood,

understood, and finding him equally ignorant of French, we were proceeding without any further attempt towards an explanation: but our new acquaintance, who was not perhaps unaccustomed to conversations of this sort, not choosing to part with us so suddenly, took possession of my hat, by rudely snatching it off my head. My companion took fire at the indignity, and was with great difficulty restrained from indulging the natural impulse of an Englishman, by attempting at least to lay the presumptuous German at his feet. Concluding my hat had been seized to satisfy some claim, I drew out several pieces of money, which I tendered by way of ransom. The collector, for such he proved to be, examined them; but finding they were not of the currency of the place, refused to surrender his pledge: and I should certainly have returned to Mentz bare-headed, if a soldier, who talked a little French, had not accidentally approached us, and produced an *eclaircissement* to the satisfaction of all parties.

BEING now at liberty to pursue our purpose, we amused ourselves a considerable time with surveying the town, which from this point of view appears extremely grand and venerable; and with admiring the wonderful beauty of its environs. Our expectations were so fully answered in
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this short excursion, that we returned with sentiments of respect for the ancient city of Mentz, which an interior view of it alone would never have inspired.

FROM Mentz we proceeded by water to Bingen, being very conveniently accommodated in a large house-boat. In this short voyage of twenty-one miles only we counted upwards of forty towns, the greatest part of them having castles in, or adjacent to them. But the country near the river being still flat, the views had nothing in them very picturesque till we had passed Walluff, and approached Bingen, a small town delightfully situated on the Nahe, very near the point where that river commits itself into the Rhine. We arrived about noon, and whilst dinner was preparing, ascended a mountain close to Bingen, on the summit of which we had observed a considerable ruin; we found it to be the remains of an ancient castle, which had nothing but its antiquity to recommend it. We were amply gratified with the view of a landscape in which every thing beautiful and sublime in nature are united. The channel of the Rhine is here extended to near a mile in breadth, and flowing with less rapidity than we had yet seen it, appeared more like an arm of the sea than a river. The opposite shore presented to us the numberless towns, villages,

villages, castles, vineyards, and romantic rocks that cover the face of the Rhinegau ; encompassed by mountains rising gradually to a prodigious height, from the margin of the river at Rudesheim, and forming a semicircle not exceeding seven miles in diameter, which terminates at Walluff, a village about sixteen miles higher up the Rhine. These mountains not only shelter the Rhinegau from the north and east winds, giving greater fertility to its vineyards, and rendering their produce more excellent than what any spot in either circle of the Rhine can boast ; but form likewise a back ground, the boldest and most majestic that can be imagined, to this beautiful and wonderful scene. To these objects were added, immense rocks that overhang the river, and form the celebrated streight of the Bingenlock, by which the extensive channel of the Rhine is so contracted, as barely to admit a practicable passage ; the waterfall, by which the Nahe unites with the Rhine ; and the island on which stands a tower, rendered famous by the fabulous history of an archbishop of Mentz, who is said to have been pursued to this place and devoured by rats ; to which the people here give devout credit, and confidently relate it as a judgment upon him for his extreme covetousness and want of feeling for the poor. Having feasted our eyes as long as the time would permit without spoiling our appetites,

appetites, we returned, with a determination to renew our observations as soon as we had dined. Not having the good fortune to meet any person with whom we could converse, otherwise than by signs, our situation was not very comfortable. After dinner we again sallied forth, and were well entertained with viewing the town of Bingen, which is very ancient ; and though at present nothing more than a handsome village, was once an imperial city. I had no expectation of finding any employment for my pencil in this walk ; but the romantic grandeur of the abbey, which is a mixture of Saxon and Gothic architecture, and the picturesque beauty of a stone bridge, which crosses the Nahe in front of it, and is said to have been built by Drusus, so captivated my fancy, that I immediately set about the drawing from which those objects are delineated in the second plate.

WE again visited this venerable ruin the next morning, and found another front of it so highly picturesque, that I could not forbear sketching it. This view is the subject of the third plate.

I WAS not indifferent, as an artist, to the beauties of the Rhinegau, but though in nature they surpassed all description

tion or imagination, they did not admit of a just or pleasing representation. For unless the objects, which are so numerous as to give the whole district the appearance of a continued village, were comprehended in a much greater number of drawings than I had leisure to complete, and taken at a nearer point of view than Bingen ; the composition must be too confused and minute to convey any resemblance or idea of this wonderful and enchanting landscape. I therefore took a sketch only of Rudesheim, which lies opposite to Bingen ; and a distant view of Johannis-Berg, situated on the summit of a mountain, about the middle of the Rhinegau.

HAVING spent two days very agreeably at Bingen, we proceeded towards Baccharah or Bacchi-ara, a small city on the Rhine ; which obtained its name from the peculiar excellence of the wine produced in its neighbourhood. On our way thither we put in at the village of Heiſbeck, where I made two drawings of a very ancient and romantic gateway. We landed likewise at the castle of Hoygestein ; which, with another castle adjacent to it, I sketched in one view ; and should have introduced them in this collection, if a third, similar in point of stile, but much preferable to it in picturesque beauty, which will appear in a future number,

number, had not occurred in my way. The same reason will exclude many beautiful and interesting views from the present publication, that I may pursue my intention of enriching it with as great a variety of subjects as possible.

FROM the windows of my apartment at Baccharah, I was delighted with a distant but distinct view of the city of Kaub; the tower of which formed a fine object. The intermediate prospect was richly adorned with woods, pastures, vine grounds, and well-cultivated hills. The fine ruins of two magnificent castles contributed likewise to the beauty of the prospect, which was bounded by distant and very lofty mountains. Of this view, and of the city of Baccharah, I made drawings: but few objects have ever attracted my attention more strongly than the beautiful remains of a church built in a stile of Gothic architecture, similar to that of Henry the seventh's chapel in Westminster Abbey; which I drew with great care and precision, and which is introduced as the subject of the fourth plate.

WHATEVER sentiment the representation of this elegant ruin may inspire; it is, I think, impossible for the most indifferent observer to survey the original, without lamenting its destruction; execrating the ambition of kings; and

and deprecating the wanton barbarity of military executioners.

IN the excursion we made, during our stay at Baccharah, we took a complete survey of the many striking objects and romantic scenes which are found in the admired environs of that city. Amongst these, the vine-grounds particularly attracted our notice; they were the first, indeed, of any extent, we had passed through; but even in a distant or transient view, they far excelled any others we had seen, in picturesque beauty. In our walks through them, we traversed the almost perpendicular sides of an immense mountain, which extends upwards of three miles below Baccharah, on the western bank of the Rhine; the vines overspreading it in many parts, from the summit to the water's edge; in others, the verdant cloathing was broken by tremendous rocks, projecting from the bosom of the mountain, and bending o'er its sides, as if in fond contemplation of the beauty and luxuriance of their dress. Groves of walnut-trees interspersed among the vines, with frequent and varied views of the river, contributed very greatly to the embellishment of this enchanting place. We had not intended to proceed further in our present expedition, than the end of the vineyards: but, when we arrived at that

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point, the town of Pfaltz, with a castle on a rock in the middle of the Rhine, presented a view which I could not suffer to escape me. I descended therefore to the river side, and made the drawing from which the fifth plate is engraved.

THE vineyards of Baccharah were formerly esteemed above all others for the excellence of the wine they produced ; but the wines of Heidleberg, Hoygesteim, and the Rhinegau, are at present in much greater vogue. Whether this be owing to any real superiority in their quality I know not ; for I had no opportunity of giving my opinion of the Baccharah wine, being unable, either by money or favor, to procure a single bottle : but if its quality be at all proportioned to the labour employed in producing it, there can be no doubt of its excellence ; for unless Providence had wisely formed the bodies and disposed the minds of men of all countries to the local offices to be performed, the cultivation of the vineyards of Baccharah would be too arduous for human patience or strength to endure. The side of the mountain on which the vines are planted, is cut into a great number of shallow terraces, which are carried quite to its summit ; forming an ascent, almost perpendicular, of at least half a mile : by these terraces, the peasants,

fants ascend the mountain, and convey manure, which they carry on their shoulders to every part of the vineyard. When properly distributed, they secure it, in the best manner the nature of the ground will admit, by a flight fence; but they have often the mortification to see their labours frustrated by violent rains, which sweep away both soil and manure, and leave the roots of the vines bare. This produces a failure of the vintage; which, from whatever cause it happens, generally reduces the proprietors of vineyards to the humble situation of day-labourers, whose poverty and wretchedness are not to be conceived from any condition or circumstances to which the lowest of the people of England either are or can be exposed.

HAVING finished my drawing of Pfaltz, we returned to Baccharah greatly fatigued; as much owing to the extreme heat we had endured in passing through the close alleys of the vineyards, as to the length of our walk.

THE situation of Baccharah is very similar to that of many other places in our tour; it stands at the foot of a lofty mountain, on the summit of which are the remains of a large castle, which formerly communicated with the town by a line of small towers, some of which are still

perfect: a handsome church, with a very high steeple, rising above the other buildings in the middle of the town, makes a fair appearance, and is of considerable consequence to the general beauty of the view. But notwithstanding the grandeur and boldness of the front objects and the picturesque beauty of those which composed the other points of this view, I was unable to make a drawing of it to my satisfaction. There was something in the lines of distance, added to the effect of a black paint or wash, with which the front of the houses are coloured, that did not admit of a pleasing representation: on this account, I thought it too imperfect to make a part of the present collection.

THE religious communities of Baccharah consist of Lutherans, Calvinists, and Roman-Catholics, the latter, however, though greatly out-numbered by the former, contrive to possess themselves of all places of profit or power, or to admit such only of the Protestants, as are too insignificant in point of consequence or abilities, to give any effectual opposition to their measures: and this tyranny which prevails generally through the whole principality of the palatinate, is suffered in many places to influence even the appointment of Protestant ministers to ecclesiastical benefices.

benefices. It is difficult to account for this extreme passiveness, otherwise than by imputing it to a depression of spirit that may still accompany their recollection of the unexampled cruelties, which in the rage of Catholic zeal were exercised on their unfortunate ancestors at the end of the last century. Nor is it at all improbable that this is the real cause of their forbearance under circumstances at which the feelings of other men would revolt; for the transactions of that period in the territory of the prince palatine, are perfectly adapted to impress *terror* as well as abhorrence, even on those who are no otherwise interested in them, than as the friends of humanity.

HAVING spent as much time at Baccharah as the plan of our tour would admit, we took leave of our host at the Star; and I owe him the justice of bearing testimony to the civility of his treatment, the moderation of his charge, and the excellence of his accommodations: though I had informed him the day after our arrival, that we were Englishmen, a circumstance which I had not confided to any inn-keeper from Strasburg to this place; for I was there assured, that we should suffer great inconvenience from the prejudices of the Palatines, if we were known to be English. I related this to my host, who was very
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intelligent, and spoke French extremely well, that he might be sensible of the compliment I paid him. He heard me with great indignation, and assured me the account I had received of the disposition of the Palatines towards the English was false and illiberal, and desired I would not form my opinion from information, but experience; I followed his advice, and must confess I had no reason to repent it.

WE engaged a boat to convey us to Oberwesel, a small town in the electorate of Treves, about six miles below Baccharah. The office of waterman in this little voyage, which we made at the expence only of ten-pence, was performed by a young girl. A consideration for the age and sex of our conductress, and some little concern for ourselves, prevented our being perfectly at ease when we first embarked; but we were soon convinced that she understood her business too well, and performed it with too much ease to herself, to leave us any cause of distress, either on her account or our own.

NOT having the good fortune at our first arrival to meet any person at Oberwesel who could speak French, or to whom we could make ourselves intelligible concerning the
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article of eating, we found our entertainment, though well intended, very little to our satisfaction ; but the opportunity of gratifying my taste in a drawing of the castle of Tefield, which stands on an eminence that commands the town, and is the subject of the sixth plate, sufficiently compensated for the disappointment of my appetite. The case was otherwise with my companion, who being keener set, and having perhaps less enthusiasm, would have preferred an English buttock of beef to Tefield castle ; or, I believe, to any castle in the universe.

I WAS interrupted in my first attempt to make a drawing of this castle, by the eager curiosity of the inhabitants of Oberwesel, who collected about me in such crowds, that they intercepted my view of the object, and almost distracted me with their noise ; I therefore desisted for the present, and on the next day procured a boat, in which I seated myself at a small distance from the shore, and completed my drawing. The same curiosity however prevailed, though with less inconvenience to me ; a greater number of men, women, and children, assembled on the bank of the river, than the town seemed capable of containing. Their conduct was very like what voyagers relate of harmless savages, and all circumstances considered,

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our situation and communication with them was pretty much the same as if they had been natives of Otaheite. This plate, besides Tefield castle, represents the fort of Pfaltz, which is not visible from the point of view at which my drawing of that place was made: nor had I the choice of a situation from whence I could properly have introduced it, without sacrificing, in a great degree, the picturesque beauty which distinguishes the subject of the fifth plate. I had great pleasure in perceiving that I should have an opportunity of introducing it here, without departing from a just and correct representation of nature; against which I have not suffered myself, in the subjects of this collection, to transgress in the slightest instance. The grandeur and variety of the objects comprehended in this single view, seem indeed, even to myself, to require a pledge that the composition of it is not a mere work of imagination; and as many subjects will occur in the perusal of this work that may equally seem to be the productions of fancy, I must entreat my readers to bear the declaration I have here made in their remembrance; and whilst they contemplate the scenes before them with admiration, to give me the credit only of having faithfully copied them from nature.

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NOTWITHSTANDING the inconveniencies we experienced at Oberwefel, I found sufficient inducements in the subjects it afforded my pencil to prolong my stay for some days. The church of St. Martyn having attracted my notice, I determined to make a drawing of it : but finding it impossible to effect my purpose, without using some expedient to protect myself from the intrusions of the populace, I applied by signs to a stout robust fellow, who seemed very fit for the occasion, to undertake the office of a centinel ; he seemed totally ignorant of my meaning, and I was half inclined to relinquish my design ; but the sight of a few shillings enlightened his understanding, and engaged him very heartily in my service. He paraded round me with a large stick, which he brandished with great dexterity, and as effectually secured me from interruptions, as if I had been guarded by a file of musqueteers.

HAVING succeeded so well in my negociation with my guard, and finding the hours irksome that were not employed in drawing, which required some intervals of relaxation, I made use of the same method to inform my landlord that I wished to procure a violin. He readily understood me, and in half an hour introduced a man with a violin in each hand ; who, to my satisfaction, addressed
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me in French, which was enough to ensure him, in our situation, a very cordial reception. He was himself a performer, and offered to accompany me. I asked him if he played at fight? on his answering in the affirmative, I produced a duet; but perceiving by his first efforts to play it, that he mistook my meaning, or over-rated his own abilities, I observed to him that I understood he had professed to play at fight; he replied with great simplicity that he did, but not at *first fight*. I now offered him a glass of wine, which he was prevailed on with some difficulty to accept; but finding it of a quality very superior to what he was accustomed to drink, he finished two bottles without putting me to the trouble of a second invitation; which completely drowned both his musical and rational faculties: and I was as thankful to the servants of the inn for removing him, as I had been to their master for his introduction.

He repeated his visit the next day, and politely presented me with the notes of an air, of which I had expressed some admiration. Having returned his compliment, by presenting him with a minuet he had very much admired, and half a crown for the use of his violin; I took my leave of him, without regretting the improbability of our
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ever meeting again. I received indeed as little amusement from his instrument as his conversation ; for we had exercised ourselves but a short time, before the same company who attended me in my attempts to make drawings, attracted by the sound of music, collected about the house, and many of them entering without ceremony or invitation, formed a pretty numerous audience in my apartment: I was therefore glad to purchase their absence by laying down my fiddle.

I ROSE the next morning with the sun, intending to have made a drawing of a very fine gateway, built in a beautiful stile of Gothic architecture : it is the only preserved ruin of a large monastery ; and if the building to which it belonged in any degree corresponded with the entrance, its destruction cannot be too much lamented. My evil genius, however, represented by an Oberwesel mob, prevented my adding this beautiful object to my collection ; for, though I had chosen so early an hour to escape interruption, my former attendants surrounded me before I had made any progress in my outline, and rendered my further proceeding impracticable. They certainly had no other intention than to gratify their curiosity, but being unable to make them sensible, that by incommoding
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me they disappointed themselves, I submitted, very much against my inclination, to put up my implements ; and returned as expeditiously as possible to my inn : for I had no doubt but they were as much dissatisfied with my conduct as I was with them. Besides the inconvenience of being thus obstructed in my pursuits, I began to apprehend that the universal desertion of their occupations, which my presence occasioned, might induce the magistrates to conduct me out of the town with more ceremony than I entered. This consideration, and the little probability that another day (which was the utmost I should have staid) would produce any material change in their humour, determined me to prepare immediately for our departure.

WE accordingly embarked, as soon as we had dined, for St. Goar, a handsome and well fortified town, belonging to the landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, beautifully situated on the western bank of the Rhine, at a very small distance from Oberwesel. When we had proceeded about a mile, the rocks on the opposite shore, which rose gradually to a prodigious height, and were so steep and craggy as to appear inaccessible, formed a scene in the bold and romantic stile, as beautiful as can be imagined. The river
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in this part was narrow and very rapid ; and the passage, as we learnt from experience, attended with some danger, if undertaken, as was our case, in a very small boat. But not being apprized of this circumstance, and my attention being wholly engaged by a succession of objects peculiarly suited to my taste, I did not perceive that our boat was powerfully attracted by a whirlpool, till we were on the verge of its vortex : when the extraordinary exertions of the waterman, added to the terror expressed on his countenance, discovered to us the danger we were in. He extricated us, however, without any other inconvenience than giving us a very serious alarm. But we had scarcely time to congratulate each other on our escape, before we were overtaken by one of those sudden and violent storms which, from the nature of the adjacent country, are very frequent on the Rhine. It came with such fury, that the boat was several times turned round, and driven by the wind in contrary directions : so that we reached the shore with great difficulty. These storms being of short continuance, we were soon at liberty to proceed ; the weather during the remainder of our voyage was very fine, and the views on both sides of the river delightful. We arrived at St. Goar early in the evening.

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OUR expectations were greatly raised by the accounts we had heard of the many grand objects that would present themselves in our approach to that place ; but their appearance very much exceeded every thing we had been told. Amongst these, the fortress of Rhinfels, which is situated near St. Goar, and is represented in the seventh and eighth plates, claimed my first notice. I therefore paid my respects the next morning to Colonel HEIMEL, the commanding officer of the garrison, to request his permission to make drawings of the castle. He received me with the same politeness I had experienced from gentlemen in similar stations at other places ; and readily favoured me with his consent, under the usual restriction of not meddling with the fortifications, which were not necessary to my purpose. He offered to indulge me with a sight of the citadel, which stands much higher than his residence in the castle, and which is not in the view : the weather being hot, and the ascent very steep, I pleaded fatigue, which he admitted, as much I believe to his own satisfaction as mine, in excuse for my declining the honor of attending him.

THE castle of Rhinfels, viewed with regard to its picturesque beauties, is the most striking object I have ever seen.

seen. It stands on a large and extensive rock, that rises majestically from the side of the river, to a very considerable height. It was built about the middle of the thirteenth century. The most general view that can be taken of it, is given in the seventh plate. The ground that forms this face of the rock is very unequal, having numberless projections and recesses, where fortifications are erected, and lines formed, which render the castle of Rhinfels (if not impregnable) one of the strongest fortresses in Europe. These being interspersed with trees, vineyards, and rich herbage, present a scene in which beauty and grandeur are so united, as to produce the most pleasing and astonishing effect. An irregular range of buildings, which commence at the foot of the rock and are continued to its summit, form a communication with the citadel. Some of these buildings are handsome; but their importance to the picturesque beauty of the view, is owing to the infinite variety of their figures, and the diversity of colouring they exhibit from the different materials made use of in constructing or embellishing them. Every spot unoccupied by buildings being laid out in orchards, vineyards, or other plantations; a luxuriance of foliage softens and enriches the whole scene; and corrects, or, at least, reconciles the formality of art, by giving a degree of beauty to the angular forms of

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a fortification, which, when abstractedly viewed, are, of all others, the most offensive to the eye of an artist.

THE barracks, consisting of a regular and handsome row of buildings, situated at the foot of the rock, which serves as their back-ground, make a pleasing contrast to the multiform irregularity of the buildings, and other objects, comprehended in this view of the castle. The middle ground is composed of a rock, which seems to be abruptly intruded. Its effect, however, is admirable; for, by contracting the scene, it forces the eye upon objects, which the more they are contemplated, the more they delight. To complete the beauty and grandeur of the view, the second river in Europe flowing rapidly beneath the walls of the fortrefs, animates and enlivens the whole.

THE eighth view applies rather as a specimen of the country than a representation of the castle; though such parts of it as are represented, are highly pittoresque.

I CANNOT take leave of Rhinfels castle without remarking on the views I have given of it, that the different times of the day at which the drawings were made, afforded a light and shadow peculiarly adapted to the respective subjects.

jects. A noon day sun was necessary in the first, to point out and display the numerous objects of which it is composed; in the latter, the sun having nearly finished its daily course, the castle, and the summit only of the rock on which it stands, were illumined; the rest of the landscape, consisting of smaller rocks, vineyards, and other objects, not in themselves very interesting, were involved in one grand mass of shade; an effect which must often occur in mountainous countries, but hath not always been attended to by artists. A thin vapour, that commonly rises among the mountains with the setting sun, spreads a duskiness over the landscape, which blended and softened those objects from which its rays are withdrawn; the foreground only being, in some degree, enlivened by reflected lights.

It will not require a scientific eye to discern, that these subjects, with many others which appear in this collection, receive great advantage from having the drawings of them highly finished *on the spot*; a circumstance which I think very important to a just representation of the natural beauties of any landscape. For those artists who content themselves with a slight sketch or outline of a subject, must often be inaccurate in finishing the minutiae of

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their drawings ; for the beautiful tints that are seen in nature, are too various and transient, and the circumstances to be attended to in the forms and outlines of natural objects, too numerous for the nicest judge, or the most curious and attentive observer, to bear in his mind. The defects of memory are consequently supplied by invention : hence it happens, that the works of many artists are frequently distinguished by the forms and colouring of their rocks, trees, or other interesting objects, which being nearly alike in all subjects, give a sameness to their productions, which never can appear in works copied from nature. The same may be observed of pencilling ; those who study the works of eminent masters, are solicitous only to acquire their *manner* of producing effects. Those who study nature, will be as various in their manner, as in their subjects ; for the actual production of effects, not the manner of producing them, will be the object of their solicitude. The first point of excellence to which an artist can attain, is to copy nature correctly ; the next, to give a close imitation of her beauties, which cannot be too minutely studied.

THE *chiaro oscuro* is, in general, a material object of attention ; for the moment of delineation should be delayed,
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'till an opportunity of expressing its most pleasing effect occurs. I have frequently seen views in this tour, which have appeared to me for several days without any force or effect, which when properly illumined, have become strikingly beautiful: and, I believe, there are few who bestow any attention on the subject, that have not seen the most trifling outlines made charming by the mere effect of the sun. It is therefore my invariable practice, when the time permits, to sketch the contours of several drawings, and to reserve the finishing of them, till suitable and pleasing effects are produced in nature. When these do not arise to give exercise to the judgment and taste of an artist, (on which the choice of the *chiaro oscuro* best suited to the subject must in all cases depend) it may be allowable to give a little indulgence to his imagination. There is, indeed, one general rule admitted in drawing from nature, which leaves great scope and latitude to the fancy, *viz.* that although it be contrary to every idea of propriety, to throw a light on any part of a landscape, from whence the rays of the sun are excluded by an intervening object, it is allowable for a shadow to be introduced wherever the artist pleases; because the same objects that are vividly illumined in one minute, may the next appear in a fainter light, from the intervention of a thin transparent cloud;

or be entirely shaded by a more gloomy one, impervious to the rays of the sun. The greatest force and most pleasing effect are displayed, when the atmosphere is surcharged with fleeting clouds; strong shadows being then opposed to strong lights, the artist has an opportunity of giving the utmost force to his subject, and of displaying the nicety of his judgment, by proportioning the degrees of light to the importance of the objects to be illumined; which cannot be correctly done, when the uniform glare of an unclouded sun overspreads the whole region. Great skill and taste are required to produce a good and proper effect from the introduction of various lights; for unless one of them be sufficiently predominant to attract the first notice, the eye wanders over the subject without distinguishing the principal object, which in every possible case, both in history and landscape-painting, should be illumined by the principal light.

MANY circumstances concurred to render St. Goar infinitely more agreeable to us, than any other place we had visited. Through some accident, we passed unobserved by a centinel, who was posted at the entrance of the town to receive the names of strangers, which are daily reported to the governor of the fortrefs. Very soon, therefore,

therefore, after our arrival, we were visited by the officer of the guard ; who being under the necessity of repairing the negligence of the centinel, requested, with many apologies for his intrusion, that we would favor him with our names. He addressed us in very good English ; and we had reason to congratulate ourselves on the accident that introduced him to our acquaintance ; for he was polite, sensible, and entertaining, and was seldom absent from us during our stay at St. Goar.

HIS knowledge of the English language, in which he excelled any foreigner I had ever met with, was acquired by serving with the English army in America ; the corps to which he belonged being one of the auxiliary battalions of the Hessian troops employed in the unhappy contest between Great-Britain and her colonies. He commented, with great ability, on the operations and events in which he had sustained a part ; and was very animated in his observations and reflections on the conduct and result of that ill-fated war. I listened to him with great attention ; and truth obliges me to confess, that I gained more knowledge of the subject from this subaltern officer, of an auxiliary corps, in a remote town of Germany, than I had been able to collect, in my own country, from the

orators

orators of parliament, the printer of the gazette, or the ingenious and communicative fabricators of the daily papers.

To relieve the disagreeable sensations this narrative had excited, both in our minds and his own, he started a new subject, much better adapted to produce pleasing dreams, than the scenes of horror and devastation he had painted; or the misrepresentations, avarice, and treachery of the few detestable individuals, to whom he confidently, and with much seeming reason, imputed the innumerable calamities that have arisen to this country from the American war.

He informed us, that the master of the Bois Verd, at whose house we had taken up our abode, was himself very superior to the generality of persons in his station or employment; that he had three daughters who were extremely handsome and accomplished, and to whom, if we approved it, he would introduce us. My fellow traveller took upon him, without hesitation, to answer for us both; and the ladies, attended by their father, were announced by our military friend, before I had time to
adjust

adjust my cravat, or even to examine the position of my wig.

I SHOULD here, perhaps, resign my pen ; and leave it to my companion, as better suited to his age, to describe the ladies : but though I did not contemplate them with the sensibility of nineteen, I am not less disposed to do justice to their beauty and accomplishments. They were certainly handsome and agreeable ; had good voices, and sung very prettily ; one of them indeed with great taste. They played likewise on the virginal, a stringed instrument, which formerly was much used in England. Its tones are a medium between the piano forte (which it resembles in form) and the harpsichord. The old gentleman procured me a violin, and being himself a performer, we made out a tolerable concert. This, with a free admission to the ladies of the house, who spoke French, an accomplishment not common even among the best educated women in this part of the country, made our time pass very pleasantly.

IN the article of provisions, I was here, as in every other place we passed through in Germany, very indifferently accommodated. The extravagant use of vinegar
in

in their cookery, which I could not prevail on the German cooks, either by commands or entreaties, to omit, was a circumstance which subjected me to much inconvenience and some mortification; for the disorder that induced me to undertake the tour, being stimulated by the slightest use of acids, I had often no alternative but to abstain altogether from eating, or to suffer extremely for a very moderate gratification of my appetite. My health indeed was so little benefited by the exercise and change of climate, recommended by my medical advisers in London, that I began seriously to wish myself within reach of the waters of Harrowgate, or Aix la Chapelle; from either of which Doctor TISSOT, the physician who attended me at Lausanne, gave me great hopes of recovery. He advised me, however, to try any other mineral springs that might fall in my way, before I could reach either of those places.

THE first opportunity of following this part of his prescription, occurred at St. Goar, where the Schwalbach water was sold at three halfpence a quart. I made an immediate trial of its virtue, beginning with a small quantity, and increasing it gradually to two quarts a day; which I continued to take till I arrived at Aix la Chapelle;

pelle ; it being sold at all the inns on the road from St. Goar to that city. They call it *sour* water, the reason of which I could neither learn nor conceive, its taste being extremely pleasant, and perfectly free from any perceptible degree of acidity. It has the singular property of correcting sour wine, which is a happy circumstance for the inhabitants of the countries bordering on the Rhine, as their only drink is a thin sour white wine : the choicest produce of their vineyards being reserved for exportation, or to furnish the cellars only of the nobility and gentry of the country. On drawing the cork, a thick vapour issues from the bottle that contains this water ; and when poured out, it sparkles like champagne. Its effect soon gave me reason to rejoice in the occasion (distressful as it was at the time) that introduced me to Doctor TISSOT, for I may date the commencement of my recovery, from the moment I swallowed the first draught of the Schwalbach* water, which I certainly should not have taken, but for his advice.

* There are two places of this name ; but the Schwalbach, famous for its medicinal spring, is a small town in the principality of Nassau, situated on the river Aar, about six leagues above Dietz.

THE windows of my apartment, commanding the views that are given in the ninth and eleventh plates, was another circumstance, which added very much to my satisfaction and convenience at the Bois Verd ; it enabled me to make the drawings of them more perfect and correct than they could otherwise have been ; and gave me an opportunity of seizing the moment, in which the most pleasing effect of light and shadow was produced : for though the lines were beautifully contrasted, and the objects as various as fancy could have formed them ; the general effect was rendered more or less charming, by every transition of the light and shadow.

IN the first of these views, the principal object is a castle called the Cat, which is imagined, by some writers, to have been erected in the fourteenth century : but the style of the building, its situation, and other circumstances attending it, as well warrant a supposition, that it was built two thousand years ago, as four hundred : and if any weight be given to etymological conjecture, (which is, at least, as good as any other doubtful evidence) its foundation may, with some shew of reason, be dated long before the commencement of the Christian æra ; for it seems probable, that it derives its name from the Catti,

an ancient people of Germany, who possessed, till the latter end of the reign of Tiberius, a great part of the country of Hesse: but entering, at that time, into a war with the people of an adjoining state, about the right to a small river which both parties claimed, were totally defeated: and the conquerors having previously vowed their spoils to Mars and Mercury, which consecrated every living creature, that fell into their hands, to immediate and inevitable death; the Catti were obliged to abandon their country. They retired to the island of the Batavi, now called Holland, where there are places which still bear their name, *viz.* CAT-wick-op-zen on the sea-side, and CAT-wick-op-den Rhein on the Rhine.

THIS castle, whatever antiquity it may boast, appears to retain its original form, and is, otherwise, tolerably perfect. The immense rock, on which it stands, is situated on the eastern bank of the Rhine, opposite to St. Goar, having the little town of Goarhausen at its foot. The ascent to it, which is almost perpendicular, is beautifully enriched with vineyards and other plantations. The stupendous rocks that form the back-ground, and which, notwithstanding their prodigious height, are entirely covered with trees, give majesty to the principal object,

object, and exhibit an instance of union between boldness and luxuriance, which is much oftener seen in the productions of fancy, than in the works of nature.

THE village, which appears in a distant view, and so greatly contributes to the picturesque beauty of this scene, is Patberg, whose wines are reckoned among the best that are produced in this part of the country. The flying bridge, which makes so conspicuous a figure in the foreground, though perpetually shifting its position, is always in sight at some point or other of the passage between St. Goar and Goarhausen, and may therefore be considered as a permanent appendage to the landscape; it is a fine object in itself, and gives a new effect to the grandeur and picturesque beauty of the river. Its excellence and peculiarity consist in the method of applying it, which, though extremely simple, is no inconsiderable result of ingenuity and contrivance. The Rhine is in this part so rapid as to render all common means of communication between St. Goar and Goarhausen impracticable; the flying bridge, therefore, was a very important acquisition to the inhabitants on both sides of the river.

It is constructed in this manner: A boat is fixed in the
centre

centre of the river by an anchor, or some other means as effectual. A chain passes from the fixed point, over eight floating boats (which serve only to keep the chain above the water) to the passage-boat or bridge, consisting of two vessels fastened to each other; which, on being loosened from the shore, is carried to the centre by the stream; where the resistance, and a little aid from the rudder, make it move to the opposite shore. The passage is in the segment of a circle; and the bridge may be said to oscillate like a pendulum from the fixed boat in the centre of the river.

I WAS so extremely pleased with the drawing I had just finished, that I determined the next day to take a nearer survey of the original. I accordingly passed over to Goarhausen early in the morning, and proceeded as soon as I had breakfasted, towards the castle. The direct approach to it being too steep for me to encounter, I ascended by a winding road, which gave me an opportunity of viewing the castle at all points; and by displaying the general prospect with infinite variations, furnished an unexpected subject of pleasure and admiration; for some or other of the numberless picturesque objects with which nature and art have enriched this wonderful spot, met my eye at every
turn

turn of the road ; and changing in effect their situation with respect to each other, as I advanced, every moment produced new scenes, of which the least beautiful might have formed an interesting subject for the inimitable pencil of **POUSSIN**.

My attention had been so entirely occupied, that I reached the point on the side of the first hill, where I took the view, without any sense of difficulty or fatigue ; and began immediately to sketch the outline of the north-east front of the castle, which is represented in the tenth plate. This view, though less grand than the former, is, I think, equally pleasing. The mill, the uncouth bridge that leads to it, and the stream flowing beneath, give a romantic simplicity to the scene ; whilst the castle, which in the former plate, sits enthroned as sovereign of the adjacent hills, assuming an appearance less awful, seems to accommodate its style of grandeur to the objects which accompany it in this point of view ; forming altogether a subject well adapted to the style of composition of the Flemish school.

SATISFIED with this acquisition, I returned to Goarhausen ; but finding nothing in that place, that merited particular

particular notice, I took my seat in the flying bridge, which soon conveyed me to St. Goar, where I was agreeably welcomed by the captain and my fair friends at the Bois Verd.

THE Mouse castle, situated on the same side of the river, at a small distance from fort Cat, and taken likewise from the window of my apartment, is the subject of the eleventh plate. This castle, though inferior in situation and grandeur, possesses many of the beauties of fort Cat, and is by no means unworthy to be its companion. It commands an extensive view of the Rhine in both directions: at the foot of the rock on which it stands, is the village of Welmich, which lying behind the castle, as viewed from St. Goar, a small part of it only appears in this plate. The prospect from the north-west front, is terminated by a ridge of lofty hills, crowned with woods, having herds and numerous flocks grazing on their sides; the intermediate ground is composed of small hills, and beautiful valleys highly cultivated.

THE building is in a style of architecture similar to that of the Cat castle, and though it has suffered more from the hand of time, was probably erected about the same period:

period: but whatever antiquity they may boast, the erection of them was a wonderful exertion of human art and industry; and the multitude of these venerable and magnificent buildings, that are every where seen on the borders of the Rhine, seem to indicate, that the ancient inhabitants, acting under impressions unfelt by their posterity, were excited to these great undertakings, by having perpetually before them, the bold and majestic objects with which nature hath so liberally adorned this romantic country: for the most perfect harmony of style is here preserved between the productions of nature, and the works of art; where simplicity prevails in the one, the awful majesty of the other is proportionably softened; where tremendous rocks form the natural scene, the aspiring architect has exhibited the boldest features of his work, and challenges his portion of admiration.

My next undertaking was the city of St. Goar, represented in the twelfth plate: the nature of the subject, and the great satisfaction I had experienced during my stay there, inclined me to be particularly attentive to the execution of it. This city, which is the capital of Lower Hesse, was one of the places devoted by Louis the Fourteenth to destruction: it was accordingly invested in
December

December 1692, by the French army under the command of field-marshal TALLARD, who was dangerously wounded in the attack ; and obliged to retire with great precipitation, after losing several thousand men, and a considerable part of his artillery.

IT is pleasantly situated on the margin of the river, at the foot of an immense rock which is almost pendicular, and approaches so near to the stream, that the houses, which are in general handsome, are built in hanging streets ; many very convenient habitations being formed in the steepest parts of the rock itself. The access to the upper streets is attended with some inconvenience to the inhabitants ; but when seated in their houses, nothing can exceed the beauty of the prospect ; the country round being cultivated with great industry, and the rocks richly covered with vines, planted in ascendant terraces, as in the Rhinegau. The inhabitants themselves are lively, but the town is indebted for a great part of its gaiety to the garrison of Rhinfels. The extreme rapidity of the Rhine, both above and below St. Goar, occasions a great scarcity of fish : the want of this luxury doth not seem, however, to be much felt, nor indeed the enjoyment of it to be much

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understood ;

understood ; for what they do preserve, is eaten cold, and frequently without any sauce.

AFTER having taken these several views at St. Goar, (the most romantic situation I have ever seen,) we embarked in a passage-boat on the Rhine, in quest of other picturesque objects. We had ten or a dozen persons on board ; some passing to villages at a little distance ; others going for pleasure, forty or fifty miles, and returning the next day. In passing down the river, they may be said to be on parties of pleasure : but in their return, they are drawn by horses close to the shore, and against the stream, which is sometimes strong and rapid.

ONE of the company spoke French, with whom we entered into conversation ; a privilege we generally lost on the Rhine, by our unacquaintance with the German language. This circumstance the candid reader will bear in mind, if our orthography of German names should not always be correct, and if we should be thought cautious of hazarding opinions on customs and occurrences which we might not fully comprehend.

WE

WE landed at Boppart ; and in our way, reconnoitred the town : it had hardly any circumstances which could be deemed picturesque. The walls were high and extensive ; a tower of tolerable height appeared in the back-ground ; and smaller turrets fringed the water : but the whole would not form an interesting picture. A large nunnery commanded a fine view of the river ; where beautiful ladies, peeping out at the windows, seemed impatient of confinement. Such an object is apt deeply to affect the mind of a Protestant ; the inhabitants passed by, without seeming to bestow a thought on the anguish and misery within.

FROM Boppart, we made for Braubach ; and we shall just relate our disappointments, as warnings to artists who may succeed us. The intermediate country is extremely beautiful ; woods, rocks, fruit-trees, corn, and various circumstances combine to please the eye, and might have inflamed the imagination in almost any other place : but on the Rhine, the imagination of an artist is torpid to any thing not sublime.

IN the passage to Braubach, we passed by Speiz, which is said to be the centre of Hesse. That circumstance, and the appearance of its watch-tower, made me hesitate ; but,

on mature examination, I thought it most prudent not to land, until we arrived at Braubach. Here we were embarrassed by our unacquaintance with German; the only language spoken by the waterman; and by all around us, except one gentleman. We were under the disagreeable necessity of requesting him to be our interpreter; and he kindly conducted us to an inn; but in a street so narrow, and having apartments so small and low, that we determined to trust our own eyes, rather than the information of the watermen. After a short ramble, we discovered a small public-house by the water-side: the negociation with the landlord, who had but one small bed which he could spare, and who understood not a word or gesture that was not German, was very arduous; but happily concluded in our accommodation. I was indulged with admission to a vineyard, where I took a view which will be added to the subjects of another Number.

I BEG leave to observe, that though I stayed longer at St. Goar than at any place I had yet visited, the time was very insufficient for even sketching the hundredth part of the beautiful and interesting subjects, that every where occurred in the enchanting neighbourhood of that city. The views I have given in *this* and the *preceding* Number,

Number, are a proof, that my admiration was not excited by common or inconsiderable objects ; they are formed, if contemplated *singly*, to impress the mind of the beholder with astonishment and pleasure. But when my readers are informed that the castle of Rheinfels ; the Cat castle ; the Mouse ; the city of St. Goar ; the town of Goarhausen ; with many intermediate objects, which, in any other situation, would be very striking ; and last, though not least important to the grandeur of the scene, an extensive view of the Rhine ; are all seen from one point, and are distributed within a district of a few miles : the enthusiasm I felt in the contemplation, and must always feel in the recollection of this wonderful assemblage of objects, will not, I hope, be attributed to the warmth of my imagination, but to the justness of my feelings.

THOUGH I had many times experienced in my passage on the Rhine, that the impression I received from objects which seemed to me to possess the highest degree of grandeur and picturesque beauty, was almost immediately succeeded by that of others more beautiful and sublime ; I left St. Goar without conceiving it possible that any thing comparable with the subjects I had left *untouched* in the neighbourhood

neighbourhood of that city, would occur in the remainder of my tour.

I HAD therefore no difficulty in accommodating my views and expectations to humbler scenes ; but after the agreeable entertainment I had met with at the Bois Verd, I could not so easily reconcile myself to the wretched accommodations we were obliged to put up with at Braubach. For though the house by the water-side, to which chance had conducted us, was delightfully situated, the least frequented road in England does not exhibit any thing under the denomination of an inn, or house of entertainment, half so miserable.

BUT the obliging behaviour of the landlord and his wife, who appeared to be very solicitous to serve and accommodate us, was in our circumstances an irresistible inducement to become their guests. This, however, was the only circumstance very flattering in the prospect before us. On examining the bed, which we had been told was the only one the house afforded, we found it so extremely small, that we could only have used it alternately. The good woman observing our distress on this account, very civilly desired the Gentleman who had come to our assistance,

ance, to inform us, that she would endeavour, at least, to procure another from a neighbour, if we would submit to have it laid on the floor. We were not in a situation to start objections ;—she left us, and in a short time returned with a countenance which told us she had succeeded. The bed soon followed, and our apprehensions about a lodging being removed, the next care was to order dinner. Our hostess did not perplex us with a long bill of fare, but producing a small piece of mutton, gave us to understand that her larder contained nothing more. A scarcity of provisions is an inconvenience generally felt at this place, the inhabitants being obliged to procure almost every thing they use from Coblenz, which is at least three leagues from Braubach. We found likewise that we were the first guests she had entertained at bed and board.

WHILST our dinner was preparing, we received a proof of her attention to us, which promised to remove our principal inconvenience. She recollected there was a person in the town who had formerly served in the French army, and immediately engaged him to attend, and interpret for us. He made his entrée with the dinner, of which I invited him to partake. He said he had already dined, and having nothing before us very tempting, I pressed

pressed him no further ; but as soon as the landlady withdrew, (perceiving we could not eat the mutton,) he fell to, and devoured every morsel of it. We complained very much of the badness of the meat, and desired him to communicate what we said to the landlady, and inform her that our dinner had only been a bit of bread. He pretended to do as we requested, but it was evident from the looks and behaviour of the woman, that he had expressed himself very differently, for she appeared to be highly pleased with what he said.

DISGUSTED with this barefaced treachery, I carelessly asked him if he knew any other person in the town who spoke French? But being too old a soldier to be taken by surprise, he answered me in the negative. At supper, which consisted of a plumb-pudding somewhat in the English taste, he resumed his post. I repeated the compliment of an invitation to partake with us, but the landlady being in the room, he declined it. We took him at his word, and dispatched the whole ourselves. Having suffered great inconvenience at other places from German cookery, I desired him to intreat the landlady that I might have no acid in any thing she dressed for me. In this case likewise I had reason to believe that he misinterpreted me,

me, as every thing that was set before us had a greater proportion of acid than I had been plagued with at any other place.—By this artifice he secured my share of the provision to himself, which he took however by stealth, for I could not prevail with him to taste a morsel, whilst any person belonging to the house was present. Nothing arose to explain to me this part of his conduct. Perceiving that he misrepresented all my directions concerning the manner of dressing my victuals; I could no longer refrain from shewing some marks of displeasure, which being observed by the landlady, she applied to my interpreter for an explanation; but learning nothing satisfactory from him, she appeared greatly distressed, and often exclaimed in a piteous tone, *miserable! miserable!* I was at last reduced to the necessity of cooking for myself, in which I had many difficulties to encounter, from the want of kitchen utensils. Two bricks placed edgeways with sticks laid across, was the only contrivance I had the means of substituting for a gridiron; every thing else was consistent with this specimen. By way of consolation, they informed me I suffered no peculiar inconvenience, for that the town in general was no better supplied with household conveniences, or other accommodations, than our hostess; I was therefore perhaps better off with her than

than I should have been elsewhere, as no person could have been more solicitous to serve or oblige us.

It may seem strange that I should continue for many days in a situation so very uncomfortable, when a few hours might have conveyed me within reach of every convenience and accommodation the country afforded. The truth is, I had given my hobby-horse the rein. The castle of Marxburgh had caught my attention, and I could not leave Braubach without adding to my collection, the different views of an object which struck me as peculiarly beautiful and romantic. This castle, which belonged formerly to the Prince Palatine, was a place of considerable strength; but being destroyed as a fortress in 1689, when the palatinate was laid waste by Louis the Fourteenth, has not since been repaired. It afterwards devolved by treaty or exchange, with the bailiwick of Braubach, to the Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt, who has converted it into a state prison.

AMONG its present inhabitants is a Jacobin Prior, who has suffered the loss of liberty for more than twenty years, for presuming to write against superstition. The Prince is tormented with a dread of spirits, since the death of a favourite,

favourite, which he occasioned in the chace ; and sleeps in an apartment lightened with wax candles, and furnished with guards.—He has committed the government to his eldest son. The castle of Marxburgh is likewise the place of confinement to which the prince sends his mistresses, if they have the misfortune to incur his jealousy or displeasure. In 1782, Madam Blanquette fell under his suspicion, and was committed to this prison. She prevailed on the servant who brought her provisions, to exchange dresses with her, and escaped. The prince doomed the servant to the fate intended for his mistress, and confiscated her effects. The castle is guarded by militia.

THE peasants in this principality are Serfs, or slaves ; they must serve four years before they are allowed to marry : and if they desert, become the property of government. When the Prince takes the diversion of hunting, the peasants, to the amount of four or five hundred, are obliged to form a circle, and to drive the game to a destined spot. If one of them kills a hare, and is discovered, he is condemned to the hard lot of being chained to a wheel-barrow, in which he conveys stones, or dirt, for the remainder of his life, to and from the capital.

THE

THE rock on which the castle of Marxburgh is situated, stands close to Braubach ; and is represented, with a part of the town and a very small part of the castle, in the thirteenth plate. The grandeur of this object, independent of other circumstances, was sufficient to attract my attention ; but there was a singularity in its appearance, that claimed particular notice. The side which faces the town is extremely craggy ; and broken into an infinite variety of forms, from which a fanciful observer might collect ample subject for the exercise of his imagination. The prominent parts of its surface were tinted with colours, as various as the forms it exhibited ; the recesses richly planted with vines, and a red herbage interspersed, formed a rich and pleasing contrast to the barren appearance, and less lively colouring of its craggy projections ; the whole composing an assemblage of tints, which, faithfully represented in a picture, might please the eye, but would never induce a belief that any scene exists, in which they are so united by the hand of Nature.

THIS view was taken from the centre of a vineyard, represented in the fore-ground, from whence a corner only of the castle could be seen ; but there was no other situation so advantageous to a just representation of the
rock,

rock, on which it stands ; an object which, in my judgment, well deserved to be the principal figure of a distinct subject.

ON my return to my lodging, I enquired of my interpreter, if he could procure me a violin ; he said he would endeavour, and in this instance acquitted himself to my satisfaction. My performance was attended with the same inconvenience I had experienced from the savages of Ober-wesel. The operation of tuning my instrument, assisted (as I apprehend) by the officiousness of my interpreter, collected a mob about the house, and before I had amused myself many minutes, the door of my apartment was suddenly forced open ; forms arranged on the outside, were occupied by a numerous audience, who appeared to be as much charmed with the notes of my crazy fiddle, as were the beasts of yore with the harp of Orpheus. I desisted as soon as I possibly could without the hazard of giving offence, and perhaps exposing myself to insult. This interruption of my amusement sent me early to bed, where I had the mortification to find that I was no better lodged than fed. What I lay upon was composed of straw, and instead of blankets, a thin feather-bed was laid over me, but too short to cover my feet.

I AROSE

I AROSE at the first appearance of day-light, and leaving my companion (who was fast asleep) to his repose, went in search of a situation from whence the castle might be taken in the best point of view. The fourteenth and fifteenth plates describe what I found to be the most beautiful and picturesque view of it. At the time I delineated the fourteenth plate, the sun shone full on the castle, which added very much to the beauty of its natural appearance; and, as will always be the case when an artist makes a judicious choice of the moment of delineation, rendered the representation more perfect, the execution of it more easy, and the production, when finished, infinitely more pleasing.

NOT thinking I had done sufficient justice to the subject in the two views I had taken of the castle of Marxburgh, and of the rock on which it stands, I went down the river in search of a spot from whence a larger, and more general view of them might be taken to advantage. The result of this little excursion is given in the fifteenth plate, which represents the north-east front of the castle. The vines that occupy the fore-ground were uncommonly tall; the height to which they usually run, is about three feet, these grew as high at least as English hops.

The

The trees that fill the intermediate space between the vineyard and the rock, were of various kinds, their edges on one side being beautifully illumined by a smart light which fell principally on the rock, and infinitely improved its natural beauty ; these circumstances, with the situation and pyramidal form of the castle, the style of the country that forms the back-ground, and of the nearer objects which contribute more immediately to the picturesque beauty and luxuriance of the subject, compose, in my judgment, a landscape as pleasing, as interesting, and romantic, as can be imagined.

My station in taking this view, was a little below Braubach ; opposite to which was Rense, a small town in the electorate of Cologne. Being extremely pleased with my acquisition, I returned in high spirits to the inn ; and having no further motive to prolong my stay at Braubach, I settled my bill with the landlord, discharged my interpreter, and embarked in the passage-boat for Ober-Lahnstein, a pretty village at a small distance from Braubach, belonging to the Elector of Treves. Our company consisted of near a hundred persons ; the boat, which was barge-built, was large enough to have contained a much greater number. We had not the good fortune to meet
with

with any person on board who spoke French. The tops of the buildings of Ober-Lahnstein, which are introduced in the thirteenth plate, and appeared from the rock at Braubach like steeples and towers, had flattered us with the hopes that our situation, with respect to accommodations, would be much improved. These hopes, however, vanished on a nearer approach.

As soon as we landed, having no interpreter, we strolled through the town in search of an inn, but finding none, we went into a public-house, as similar as possible to that we had left. The landlady and her family collected round us, but we could not make ourselves at all intelligible to each other. In about half an hour the accidental entrance of a person who spoke French, relieved us from some part of our difficulty. I proposed immediately to engage him in our service while we stayed; but his situation would not allow him to attend us, or even to afford us any occasional assistance. He assured us likewise, with apparent concern for our distress, that he knew no person in the town or neighbourhood, who could interpret for us. After much consultation with the landlady, he informed me a Gentleman lodged in the room over us, who understood French; but that he feared, from the landlady's account,

count,

count, we should be nothing benefited by him, as he would neither see or speak to any person. I acquainted him with the purpose of my visiting Ober-Lahnstein, desired he would explain it to the landlady, and intreat her to solicit for me, an interview with the Gentleman, before he left me. She readily undertook to deliver the message, and returned in a few minutes with his positive refusal to admit any body to see or speak to him; but after much intreaty, consented to answer questions proposed in writing, or to explain what I should set down for the instruction of the landlady.

THE first occasion on which I troubled him, was to inform her that I was in a state of health that would not allow me to make use of oil or butter, or to eat any thing acid; and to request therefore, that she would prepare my victuals accordingly, which he communicated and explained to her. She persisted, however, in the German method of basting the meat with vinegar, and serving it up with a sauce in which oil and vinegar were the chief ingredients. I procured from my correspondent a direction written in German to as little purpose; and finding I had no alternative but to cook for myself or starve, I took my post in the kitchen.

THIS presumption very nearly occasioned my being turned out of the house. The following note from our correspondent, which was delivered to me at dinner, determined me to conduct myself in future with more caution ;—" The Gentleman above-stairs makes his compliments to the Gentlemen below-stairs, and informs them that the landlady is very much incensed at being put out of her way. She says it is the first time her method of cooking has been found fault with ; that when people come into a strange country, they ought to conform to its customs and manner of living, and that if the Gentlemen do not like their entertainment they may leave it." Bad as our situation was, it might still be worse : I therefore wrote an immediate answer, desiring he would inform her, that I was highly sensible of her culinary merit, and if my health would allow me to indulge my appetite, should be highly gratified with her cookery ; and in short, to say any thing else for me that would be likely to appease her.

THIS submission was graciously received, and procured for me greater indulgence in the article of eating, than I had been able to obtain by expostulation, intreaty, or complaint. The old lady was all complacence, and her daughters,

daughters, who sung delightfully, exerted their musical powers to entertain us. They gave us a great variety of songs, many of them consisted of parts, in which they displayed great taste, were perfectly in tune, and kept exact time.

THE want of language to express our admiration, did not prevent their perceiving how much they had charmed us; nor was the pleasure they received from our commendations less visible. They continued with us till bed-time, and repeated their visits every evening in the same manner whilst we staid at their house. Pleased with this agreeable conclusion of the commotions of the day, which had very much discomposed me, I retired to rest in better spirits, and in a better humour with my situation than I perhaps should have felt, if nothing had arisen to disturb me.

HAVING sketched in idea several views from the environs of Ober-Lahnstein, which might take some days to complete, I determined that nothing respecting our table or accommodations should disconcert me; and was therefore perfectly free from the apprehension of giving or receiving offence from any other cause. But in this I presumed

too much upon my good fortune. The next day, being Sunday, I walked out pretty early ; and meeting the person who had negociated for us with the landlady when we first arrived, prevailed on him to return with me to breakfast. The good woman took the opportunity of his assistance, to acquaint me that a great number of people resorted to her house on Sundays, who were always entertained in the room we occupied ; and to request the use of it for that day. I readily consented, and immediately ordered my baggage, &c. to be removed to an apartment up-stairs, which she said was at my service.

THE little bustle occasioned by this operation, had a wonderful effect on the temper and nerves of our correspondent, the reason of which I did not then understand. He was enraged beyond measure at our daring to intrude upon him, after the positive declaration he had made in his original treaty with us, that no person but the people of the house should approach him. For he considered our taking possession of an adjoining room on the same floor with him, as an invasion of his territory ; or at least, a breach of the conditions on which he consented to correspond with us. He would listen to no explanation, nor be satisfied with any thing but our instantly returning to the

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the ground-floor, and intimated that he would otherwise have no further communication with us. We were too dependent on his services to give any opposition to his humour. The person who had breakfasted with us, being a witness to this transaction, I indulged a curiosity (very natural under the circumstances of the moment) to learn something of the character and situation of our neighbour. His account perfectly reconciled us to the mysteriousness and seeming oddity of his behaviour. His affairs, he said, were much embarrassed, and the extreme caution he had used in his intercourse with us, was owing to the apprehension of being arrested; as the bailiffs were practising every stratagem in their power to take him; and that the landlady having neglected to acquaint him with her intention to remove us for that day, he actually concluded we were myrmidons of the law who had solicited his assistance under a feigned distress, for the insidious purpose of entrapping him.

OUR visitor having taken his leave, and no place but the kitchen being open to us, we again strolled out. Whilst we were contemplating the remains of a large building, the original use of which we did not comprehend, a Gentleman accosted us in English, and having
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observed that we examined the ruin with some degree of curiosity, informed us it had been the reservoir of an aqueduct, built by the Romans for the use of Nieder-Lahnstein. He entered freely into conversation with us, and appeared to be well acquainted with the country. I thought we had made a fortunate acquisition in his acquaintance ; but we learnt too soon that he was bound for Treves, and would set off in half an hour.

He spoke with rapture of the beauty and fertility of this electorate: but lamented the weakness of the Elector. He represented him as the most pious and devout, but the most bigotted of all the ecclesiastical electors; the government, he said, was directed by a *fluctuating* ministry, presiding over monks *permanently* powerful: rewards and punishments were principally directed to the observance of meagre days, and a traveller in Lent may not purchase an indulgence for his dinner, at a less price than fifty ducats of the currency. In the holy week the curé or vicar visits all the families of his parish, and requires billets of confession. Eight days afterwards he repeats his visit, demanding a certificate of communion. If any are found deficient in these testimonials of their submission to the discipline and authority of the church, they are summoned

moned by an ecclesiastical synod ; the smallest inconvenience attending this process, is an expence of eight or ten pounds sterling.

HE related this with strong marks of indignation, and seemed very desirous to impress me with an opinion, that the poverty, idleness, and ignorance which every where appeared in the ecclesiastical states of the empire, were the effects only of superstition, and that the subjects of these states were not in reality (what every stranger must conceive them to be), an inferior order of beings. After congratulating us on the happiness of living under the English government, he took leave, politely expressing his regret that he could stay no longer with us.

THE first subject I delineated, is that of the sixteenth plate. The building, in the Flemish style, is the castle : which, having ramparts behind, a bridge in front, and a variety of trees on the wall, furnishes a very pleasing picture ; though the scene be different from any hitherto given. Every person of taste will perceive that the distant prospect has a very fine effect.

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HAVING finished my drawing of the subject which concludes the preceding Number, I went in search of a spot from whence the castle of Lonach, which stands on an eminence at a small distance from the town of Ober-Lahnstein, might be taken in a favourable point of view. This purpose was soon accomplished. The Gothic Arch with the draw-bridge, represented in the fore-ground of the seventeenth plate, lying in my way towards Lonach, and being so situated as to admit their being introduced in the same plate with the castle, determined me to take my sketch from that station. They formed indeed too interesting a part of the scene to be passed by ; for though at present they are of no use, the building being a mere ruin, they are regarded by the inhabitants of Ober-Lahnstein as a proof of the ancient grandeur of the town, to which they unquestionably formed a respectable entrance. These objects, with the road and the distant landscape that are seen through the arch, have a charming effect ; and though they occupy the fore-ground, enrich and enliven the subject without diminishing by their presence the grandeur or picturesque effect of the *chief* object. The castle is a very large and extensive ruin ; is of great antiquity ; and was formerly a place of considerable strength and importance. It was fortified under the direction of the

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the famous Vauban, at the time of the German League ; but afterwards destroyed by the Swedes. Great quantities of lava, petrefactions, shells, and large stones of a pentagonal form, like those seen at Lintz between Coblentz and Bonne, being found here, it is not improbable that the buildings of the castle (some of which are of uncommon height) have suffered as much from other causes as from the rage of war, or the destructive hand of time.

LONACH was one of the best and finest commandaries of the Teutons, an order of knights instituted at the latter end of the twelfth century by the then Patriarch of Jerusalem, in favor of the German nobles, who acted as volunteers, and distinguished themselves in the war undertaken by the Emperor Frederick, and other Christian princes, against Saladin, Sultan of Egypt, for the recovery of the Holy Land. The number of these knights, with their grand master (who resided at this castle) was forty. The order was both military and hospitable. They were held in great esteem, and were much regarded by all Christian princes, who testified their affection towards them by frequent and magnificent presents, and by conferring on them particular privileges and honors.

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Their power and property continued to increase till the beginning of the last century, when they began to decline more rapidly than they had risen. Most of their commandaries (which comprehended twelve provinces) are now possessed by the sons or younger branches of the families of the German princes.

BEING impatient for a better acquaintance with this venerable ruin, than could be acquired at a distance, I contented myself for the present with a slight sketch of the subject, and hastened to gratify my curiosity. The access to the castle being broken by rocks beautifully cloathed with vines, or covered with a rich herbage, rendered the ascent less formidable in appearance, and deceived me very much with respect to the real height of the mountain on which it stands. I found on reaching the castle that I had been as much deceived in the magnitude and extent of its buildings, as in the altitude of its situation.

THIS part of the electorate of Treves being populous, well cultivated, and extremely fruitful in corn and wine, the country on all sides was delightful ; but the view from the gate of the high tower, which is the subject of the eighteenth plate, was more enchanting than any thing I had

had ever seen. The building situated in the centre, on a high and beautifully variegated rock, is a hermitage, the retreat of two hermits; the one an old soldier, who, after serving thirty-six years in an imperial corps, retired to this place, which he has inhabited more than forty years. The other, a young man of twenty-two (the son of a dancing-master at Treves), who for a short time had served likewise in the imperial army; but being disgusted with the profligacy and profaneness of the soldiers with whom he was obliged to associate, and being of a turn of mind unsuited to a military life, he prevailed on his father (who had acquired interest by instructing the pages of the court) to solicit his discharge, and a licence to commence hermit; the laws of the country not permitting him, without a special dispensation, to devote himself, at so early a period of life, to retirement. They are each possessed of a garden and a small vineyard, which they cultivate with great care; but their chief employment is begging. They derive, likewise, considerable advantage from the pious donations of superstitious persons of both sexes, and from the liberality of country lovers, who resort annually to the hermitage, to invoke the Virgin, of whom they have an image in their oratory, which is said to be endowed with the power of performing great miracles.

cles. The good hermits, by these means, contrive to make a tolerable livelihood.

THEY are both of the order of St. Francis. Their cells are situated near a mineral spring, the water of which is sour—a quality particularly pleasant to German palates. The hermits drink of it apparently with as much luxury as if it were the most delicious wine. The taste for acids which universally prevails in this part of Germany, is probably acquired by the early and constant use of a thin sour Rhenish, the common and almost only beverage in the countries bordering on the Rhine. There is likewise, at a small distance from the hermitage, a spring of hot water, which is said to be an infallible remedy for most of the disorders to which horses are subject: it is peculiarly efficacious in complaints of their heels and feet, on which it operates like a charm. There is a bath appropriated to their service, and is called the Horse Bath.

THE prodigious height of the mountain on which the castle of Lonach stands, and from whence this view was taken, presented the whole country beneath in what is technically called a Bird's-Eye View; a circumstance which enabled me to enrich the composition with objects
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that could not have been introduced if the drawing had been made in a less elevated situation. The woods which compose the back ground of the hermitage, and form a pleasing relief to the naked brow of the immense rock that supports it, would not have met the eye from any other point. The village, the river, and even the hermitage itself would have lost much of their present effect, if deprived of the beauty and importance they derive from being comprehended and relatively contemplated in one scene. I felt a pleasure in delineating this subject, that was perfectly new to me; for having never ascended in a balloon, the opportunity of taking such a survey had never occurred.

I DID not leave this enchanting scene without fully gratifying my curiosity in examining the castle. It was by far the largest and most extensive of any I had seen. The labour it must have cost to convey the materials of such enormous buildings to so vast a height, was a natural subject of reflection and astonishment; and it was hardly possible, whilst my mind was so occupied, to avoid lamenting its destruction. This fortress, indeed, having for ages belonged to the Teutonic order, and consequently been devoted to hospitality and other purposes of benevolence,

lence, its ruins command greater respect, and excite stronger sentiments of regret, than the fate of the numerous castles in the circles of the Rhine, that were erected for other purposes and occupied by very different masters. For all the castles which have been erected on the banks of the Rhine, and the summits of the mountains of Germany, were used as places of security to petty lords, or heads of robbing parties, at a period when the law of force alone prevailed. From these situations they frequently descended like birds of prey from their nests, committing depredations on all around them, and returning loaded with their booty. When attacked in their fastnesses, their mode of defence was by wielding an artificial rock, which they called a *Fist*; and the use of it in offence and defence was denominated in German by a phrase which may be translated the "*Right of the Fist*." When something like a police was introduced, these old castles were quitted for villages and towns; but the property, especially the land acquired by depredation and violence, continued to be annexed to the castles. Hence the origin of those numerous petty princes, with which Germany abounds, and who have lineally succeeded each other to the present time. When systems of public defence were adopted on a large scale, or enterprizes of ambition,

ambition, of great extent, were to be favoured, or counteracted, these petty sovereigns united, and gradually instituted those leagues from which the political constitution of Germany arises.

I INTENDED before I returned to Ober-Lahnstein to have paid my respects to the hermits ; but my attention and curiosity had been so taken up with the beauties of Lonach, that I kept no reckoning of time, and was consequently obliged to defer this gratification till the next day, which we had fixed upon for our departure. Nothing I had conceived of the situation of the hermitage, did justice to its real beauty : there is scarcely any thing charming in nature, that was not clearly seen from this delightful habitation. Many of the objects which contributed to render the prospect from this place in a superior degree captivating, were too minute to be distinguished with much effect from the castle. The hermits themselves appeared to be in possession of the two chief ingredients of happiness — health of body and peace of mind ; and I took leave of them with a firm persuasion that their condition was more adapted to excite envy, than to move compassion.

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As soon as we returned to the inn (having before prepared for our departure) we desired to know the amount of our debt to the house; for they do not, like English inn-keepers, furnish bills of particulars to their guests. The sum stated by our hostess being greater than we expected, and much more than ought, upon any calculation, to have been charged, we endeavoured to make her sensible that we thought it unreasonable, and expected an abatement; but instead of complying, she put us out of all patience by affecting to understand that we were perfectly satisfied. Having no other possible means of redress, I submitted with some reluctance to solicit the interposition of the Gentleman above stairs, who being now convinced that we meant him no harm, had recovered his good humour, and very readily undertook the office of taxing our bill. He was not indeed wholly disinterested in bringing our landlady to some degree of moderation in her method of charging. After duly considering the case on both sides, he determined that a fourth part of the bill should be taken off, to which the landlady assented without hesitation; and we all parted in perfect good humour with each other.

WE

WE now proceeded on our voyage down the Rhine, in the common passage-boat, which we found, as usual, crowded with passengers; but not a single person among them with whom we could hold the least conversation. We accompanied them only to the entrance of the river Lahn, which empties itself into the Rhine from the opposite shore. We advanced immediately to the little town of Nether-Lahnstein, which is very near the place where we landed. Having no means of obtaining information, we went into the first public house we discovered; the accommodations were pretty much in the stile of those we had lately been obliged to put up with, the provisions if possible worse; but the incivility and insolence of the people of the house exceeded all that we had experienced in Germany or any other country. I therefore determined to spend as little time as possible among these savages.

THE castle of Capelle, which I had seen from the rock at Marxburgh, but more perfectly from Lonach, being the object which attracted me to this place, I was very much delighted on entering the apartment allotted us, to find that no situation could be more favorable to my purpose of making a drawing of it; for the castle, as represented in the nineteenth plate, was directly fronting

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the windows. The distance ;—the happy distribution of light and shadow which prevailed at the moment ;—the luxuriance and beautiful forms of the woods in which it seemed to be embosomed ;—the vineyards, lawns, and rocks, alternately interposed as if to decorate the scene ;—the river, which is of great importance to the general effect ;—the pretty village of Ober-Lahnstein, lying at the foot of the rock, and forming a humble contrast to the situation and grandeur of the castle—being presented to my view at the same instant, it was not possible to avoid giving this scene a decided preference to any landscape I had ever seen. Though my appetite was in perfect tune for dinner, I was too much occupied with the subject before me to spare a moment's attention to any other concern. Leaving my companion, therefore, to cater, I instantly began my drawing.

CAPELLE was anciently a large town, and in its day must have been a place of considerable consequence, as a military post. It was built by the Romans, and in point of date is ranked amongst the antiquities in the circles of the Rhine, next to Treves. The Roman emperors who stayed any time in Gaul, residing chiefly in that city, occasionally visited and spent a part of their time at Capelle.

Among

Among the ruins in the environs of the castle, are some remains of very fine and extensive buildings, supposed to have been erected by Tiberius; many parts of them are tolerably perfect, and display evident marks of grandeur and elegance.

GREAT quantities of Roman medals, and coins of different periods, are found here, of which the Count de La LAYE has made a choice collection. His cabinet has been supplied from hence with a prodigious variety of fossils and petrefactions, some of which are very curious, and it is said are no where to be met with but in the neighbourhood of Capelle. The count has likewise had the good fortune to recover a few figures in bronze, of exquisite workmanship, and in fine preservation. A cemetery of great antiquity, containing an immense number of stone coffins, having been discovered in the last century, the country people immediately set about removing them, and they are now universally used by the inhabitants of Nether Lanstein and its neighbourhood, as sinks for their kitchens, as water-troughs and mangers for their cattle, or for any other purpose to which they are applicable. Yet these people are extremely superstitious, and entertain the most absurd opinions and apprehensions about spirits and hobgoblins.

With each coffin a lamp was deposited ; and one instance only hath occurred of any distinction, in which the coffin instead of one, contained many lamps, accompanied with a bottle of wine ; and I was confidently assured that some part of the wine remained, and was very excellent, though it could not have lain there less than five hundred years. Something like a pillar, which from its weight seemed to be solid, was formerly found by persons digging near the castle ; being taken up, and appearing to be of no use or value, it was thrown by, and the boys of the neighbourhood amused and exercised themselves for half a century in rolling it from place to place. This practice was continued till by long and repeated violence it burst, and disclosed a treasure of immense value ; for the supposed pillar turned out to be a tube curiously closed at the ends, and completely filled with pieces of pure gold of an octagon form.

THE great revolutions that have happened, and the long and frequent wars in which this country has been engaged, might fairly account for the concealment of any treasure already found, or that accident may hereafter discover. And as Capelle was the occasional residence of emperors and kings who were critically circumstanced, it may be reasonably

reasonably presumed that it has been, and perhaps still is the repository of much hidden treasure, and many ancient and valuable curiosities. Marshal TURENE made it for a considerable time the quarter of his corps de reserve; the castle was then habitable, and retained some appearance of its ancient grandeur: but the Swedes under Charles the Twelfth, gave the finishing stroke to its importance as a fortress, and to its remaining beauty as an edifice, by utterly demolishing what had escaped the ravages of former wars. The Count de La LAYE has the honor to be the present master of this beautiful and venerable ruin.

BEFORE I had finished my outline, my nephew came to inform me that dinner was ready, and that a gentleman who spoke French, and was bound for Coblenz, desired my permission to join us. I gladly consented, and he entered almost at the same instant with the dinner. Being sensible, well-bred, and perfectly acquainted with the country, his company was at this time an agreeable acquisition; at an earlier stage of my tour it would have been invaluable. It was his intention to have proceeded immediately towards Coblenz, but finding the purpose which brought me to Nether-Lahnstein would necessarily detain
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me till the next day, he obligingly submitted to accommodate himself to my convenience.

THOUGH persecuted with the fumes of four crout, and the pungent effluvia of vinegar sauce, which never failed to disorder me, I have frequently sat down to more sumptuous repasts with less satisfaction. The inconvenience we had suffered in the last ten days from our total unacquaintance with the language of the country had very much disheartened me. The agreeable and unexpected change which the gentleman's arrival made in our situation, had therefore its full effect upon my mind. Past difficulties were forgotten, and future ones being at least provided against while the gentleman continued with us, I felt more comfortable, and my spirits were more enlivened than at any time since I left England.

THOUGH we did not spend much time at our dinner, the appearance of the landscape, when I resumed my pencil, was so altered from the sun having changed its situation, that I could not finish the drawing to my satisfaction till the next day. As soon as I had succeeded, and the bill was settled, we set out for Haverdorf, a village situated on the east side of the Rhine, about half way between
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Nether-Lahnstein and Coblenz. From hence we had a fine view of the castle of Ehrenbreistein, which stands on the east side of the river, and is directly opposite to Coblenz. The gentleman observing I was struck with its appearance, desired I would not suffer the consideration of detaining him to prevent my adding this view to my collection. Availing myself of his politeness, I set immediately about drawing it. I should indeed have passed it by with some regret, as a picturesque object; but I was the more indebted to his civility because the subject was connected with, and forms a necessary companion to, the twenty-first plate, in which this famous and important fortress is more fully delineated. From Haverdorf we took boat to Coblenz: the face of the country on both sides of the river was beautified and infinitely varied, as far as the eye could reach, with little hills, vineyards, castles, convents, and a great number of villas and pleasure houses, which formed a succession of scenes in this little voyage, more numerous and beautiful than can be imagined.

IT was not my object to contemplate cities, or to examine their government and police, I should otherwise have procured some materials of entertainment at Coblenz.

lentz. Its advantageous situation rendered it a key to the electorate of Treves : and the records of military passes in Germany abound with anecdotes, legends, and historical events. It has been taken by the Spaniards and by the Swedes ; and the different occurrences in the transactions of nations so opposite in religion and manners, have given rise to abundant traditions, which I have not leisure to discriminate or to relate.

To some artists the strong works of this place, erected at various periods, would afford proper subjects. But I have no taste for bastions, half-moons, counterescarps, and covered ways, unless they form appendages, or give effect to a large and picturesque view.

THE stone bridge over the Moselle, which I had been prepared to consider as something extraordinary, made me recollect with pleasure the superior state of this species of architecture in my own country, where the offensive disproportion of its length and breadth would be deemed an inexcusable fault. It consists of fourteen arches ; but is so narrow that coaches are made to pass each other with some difficulty and caution. Its extremities, guarded by double gates, towers, port-cullises, and cannon, impress
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that idea of fear and terror which metaphysicians define to be sublime; but to an enthusiast for landscapes, is no foundation of pleasure.

THE confluence of two large and rapid rivers, such as the Rhine and the Moselle, forms an object which interests a traveller, accustomed to smaller and gentler streams. They seem for some time mutually to disdain subjection or mixture. Each preserves the color of its waters; and they pass down a great channel, as distinct and independent powers.

THE citadel drew my attention, though not as a fortress. The passage of the Rhine on a flying bridge;—the view of the citadel on a mountain;—the difficulties of a winding yet steep ascent;—the position of the several gates;—and the superior importance even in such a situation, of the statues of the Virgin Mary, with which this place seemed to be peculiarly guarded—would have afforded anecdotes to any traveller who could have directed his attention to the moral and religious history of a superstitious people.

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THE view from the citadel is extensive and delightful. The palace, at the foot of a mountain, and on the shore of the Rhine;—the confluence of two magnificent streams;—a bird's-eye view of the whole town, occupying the peninsula to its extremities;—the little islands which seem dropped into the rivers;—the convents embosomed in woods;—the villages, castles, &c. which invite the eye to the distant hills, and give an uncommon interest to the horizon—these are subjects for a poet; or for a journalist who could combine historical knowledge with the emotions excited by the contemplation of a grand, varied, and beautiful landscape.

A GENTLEMAN whom we found in the passage-boat, accompanied us to Coblenz; and took us to an inn on the river's side, directly opposite to the castle of Ehrenbreistein, of which I had already taken one view. In the way, we were stopped by an officer, who with the usual jealousy and interested insolence of arbitrary governments, demanded our names, our business, how long we intended to remain in the town, and where we were afterwards going.

THE

THE hostess at the inn was rough in her appearance, and rude in her manners. This was of great importance to an invalid; to whom her mode of cookery was almost equivalent to an interdict. We perceived, however, her temper was so stormy, that we considered the risque of a little indisposition, as less dreadful than that of her displeasure; and we humbly received what she gave us, and at what hours she pleased. Every thing she condescended to do, was in the manner of conferring favors; and no stranger would have imagined that we were afterwards to be subject to her pecuniary demands.

As my excursions and journies had been hitherto confined to England, France, and Switzerland, the strict superstitious devotion of Germany often surprized me, on my entrance into that country. Though we were in the dominions of a brother of the late and present emperor; there were no traces of that spirit of innovation, which once constituted their glory. The Archbishop of Treves inherits the severe religious spirit of MARIA THERESA; and his subjects, particularly the priests, record with solemn pride, the holy zeal with which he met and threw himself at the feet of the Pope, in his celebrated journey to Vienna; and the pious pains and trouble he
was

was at, to give effect to the exhortations of the holy Father, to prevent the depredations of the late emperor on the possessions of the church.

THOUGH the character of the archbishop is religious to the extremity of superstition, yet it is mild, amiable, and popular. By the manners of the people, it may, however, be discerned, that superstition is the prevailing ingredient of it.

OBEYING the summons of our hostess to dinner, we perceived, on entering the parlour, a white friar, and a lady dressed in white cloth such as the friar had on. They were accompanied by a little girl, and standing in the middle of the room, while the dinner was smoking on the table. We made our obeisance, of which they took not the least notice; and they appeared planet-struck. A little disconcerted, we left the room, and sought the clemency of our hostess; who happened to be in tolerable humour, and accompanied us to the parlour, to enquire the occasion of our discomfiture at the appearance of her religious guests. The lady, who spoke French well, told us that after sermon a certain bell was rung; and it was their custom during its ringing, to employ themselves in prayer

prayer wherever they were, and whatever their engagement. The friar not understanding French, it took some time to explain to him the reasons of our surprize ; but he did not seem to consider them with that indignation or insolent compassion which the Romish clergy are so apt to affect towards those who are ignorant or disinclined to their religion.

WHEN this explanation had introduced us to each other, much more effectually than the offices of a master of the ceremonies, our conversation took a lively turn, in which the lady bore the principal part. She was inquisitive and sensible ; and with a different education would have been a very useful and amiable woman.

AT a small distance from the inn, the varied grounds on the banks of the river, and forming the beautiful site of the archbishop's palace, offered me numerous spots for taking another view of the castle of Ehrenbreistein. The strength and extent of the fortifications ; the magnitude of particular parts ; the height and boldness of the craggy rock which sustains them ; the contrast of the palace and other capital buildings, which I wished but could not contrive to introduce ; created some difficulty. But I
soon

soon chose my station, and took the view which is given in the twenty-first plate.

THE subject was in nature illumined by the sun nearly at noon: and I have endeavoured to make it shine with full force down the centre of the picture. The rocks are richly variegated in color, and charmingly decorated with trees. Adjoining the dark rock which is given on the right side of the picture, is a large draw-bridge, which would have greatly added to its beauty if I could have introduced it.

THERE is hardly any circumstance on the Continent so mortifying to the pride of an Englishman, as a comparison of the general taste for music in England, and that of almost every other country. Our street-performers and ballad-singers, not only distress our humanity, but torture our ears. It is not so in Germany. If they are destitute of civil and religious liberty, and poor to the extremity of misery, music is often their consolation and delight. In a house adjoining our inn, we were daily amused by the performance of chorus-singers, who often extorted our warmest admiration.

BUT

BUT if we subscribed to the superiority of their art, I found the people at Coblenz were not insensible to the superiority of our manufactures. The books I had taken with me from England, being filled, I sent twenty sheets of large drawing-paper to be bound up at a Stationer's. The man seemed highly delighted with the English paper ; and proposed to exchange it for some of his own : and when I refused him, he took away one half, and bound up the other. I sent several messages ; but having paid him for his trouble, I could obtain no redress by negotiation : and my stay at Coblenz, perhaps happily, would not admit of my application to a magistrate, and acquiring any experience in the mode of administering justice. Having reconciled ourselves to this mortification and inconvenience, with the philosophy of experienced travellers, we hired a boat for Andernach, which we learnt to be at the distance of three German leagues.

As we departed from Coblenz, the river became less rapid ; being less confined by mountains, which gradually retired to the distance of two miles, and formed very extensive, woody, beautiful valleys.

THOUGH

THOUGH our object was Andernach, our attention was first attracted by a town newly and regularly built, and situated on the opposite shore. I was tempted to take a view of it; but the houses being all white, with black tops or coverings, I desisted for reasons I need not explain to the artist or the man of taste. This town has peculiarities, the origin of which we could not trace by such enquiries as we had opportunities of making. The inhabitants enjoy a freedom of religion, and exemption from taxes, which are unaccountable on the supposition that they are subject to a German power. The privileges may possibly be decoys for the establishment of a new colony; and when the purposes are answered, the privileges will be gradually circumscribed and withdrawn, or the government must forget its principles. Among the tolerated sects, the Moravians are the most numerous, and the most remarkable. It is wonderful the moral discipline and regulations of this people, the effects of which are so obvious in every quarter of the world, are not enforced by law on all receptacles of the poor in England. This would silence all complaints on the inefficacy of all the present liberal provisions for the poor; and render unnecessary all those voluntary societies, commenced by artifice under pretensions of philanthropy, and
generally

generally terminating in private jobs and selfish advantages.

ON our arrival at Andernach, which though an old, is a populous and lively town, we were very happy in contracting an acquaintance with a French gentleman whose name is GRATISE. This gentleman had served in the French army; and though his acquaintance with the English had been but short, and nearly fatal to him, he had not cherished any illiberal prejudices against Englishmen. He embarked with the party which landed at Jersey in the late war; and in the unsuccessful attack on the island, an English ball entered at his right breast, and went out at his back; but not touching any vital parts, he escaped with only long confinement and great pain. I found Mr. GRATISE to be a Miniature-painter; and was highly pleased with the correctness and truth of his designs, and the neatness and taste of his finishing. He shewed us great civilities; and we were much obliged to his intelligence, as he accompanied us through the town. Indeed many of the observations and remarks concerning Andernach, and other parts of the adjacent country, have arisen from the information of Mr. GRATISE.

WE advised him to visit the English dominions with views less hostile than those which had carried him to Jersey ; and we are happy to announce, that London possesses this worthy and excellent artist.

ANDERNACH is considered next to Treves in this part of Germany, in point of size, antiquity, and importance. I have been informed by persons who understand German, that this definition is implied in the name. It was the residence of the kings of Austria ; and ruins of their ancient castles are still to be seen : they must have been very large, strong, and well fortified. On surveying the city we were struck by its resemblance to a cage ; and perhaps the inhabitants of German fortifications, at least in former times, might not be unaptly compared to animals in cages. The buildings are inclosed in a circle of wall forty feet high ; so that the good people on the other side of the Rhine are for some time in broad day-light, while those of Andernach are buried in darkness and sleep.

IN the summer, the scene on the Rhine, in the view of this town, is extremely interesting. Rafts of wood are constructed in numbers to constitute a singular fleet, and of prodigious size. There are generally eight hundred
or

or a thousand persons employed in this work for four months. On the rafts, houses are erected of sufficient commodiousness for those who take the passage: and the commanding raft has a guard-house, where the conductors or sailors of this fleet sleep and receive orders for duty in alternate parties. The duty consists in rowing, and guiding the fleet in the winding and rapid passes of the river.

WHEN the Rhine is high from a flood, the fleet sets off with the prayers of the people at Andernach; which are often ineffectual; the most dreadful accidents taking place, and the general purpose of the adventurers sometimes defeated: but if it arrive in Holland safely for a few seasons, the proprietors make very large fortunes.

THE government of Andernach is of an uncommon nature. The Elector of Cologne is the sovereign of the country; and he has eight invalids who form the military police at what is called the Gate of the Rhine, and the citizens or burghesses at the other gates. The Elector or Archbishop of Treves is the vicar of the city. All things temporal are directed from Cologne; all things spiritual are directed from Treves. Whether these powers come

sometimes in competition, and what means are used to restore their harmony, we had not time or opportunity to learn.

THE trade in which the city of Andernach is most interested, is that of the Touff-stein, a stone used in constructing the dykes of Holland. Enormous heaps and masses of this stone are always to be seen around the city, and on the banks of the Rhine. The Elector of Treves is the proprietor, and they produce the greatest part of his revenue. The best mill stones in the world are obtained in this country ; and the slates for covering houses are of great beauty, and of great value as a permanent article of trade.

AMONG the customs of this venerable city, the ceremony of admitting citizens seemed to us the most remarkable. At Christmas, or the Feast of God, the people take arms, and form a cavalcade under the direction of their burgomaster. The Prince of Neuvil sends music and drums, and the city discharges all the expence. The ceremony of admitting the citizens is performed in a large plain. They fix in the centre of a circle formed by the company, a fan, or instrument for winnowing corn.

Over

Over this fan, the candidate is to leap backward ; and to ascertain his having performed it neatly, a pail full of water is placed on the fan, which being set in motion by the slightest touch of the foot, throws all the water over him. A superb entertainment is provided, and many tons of wine consumed by the citizens, and the strangers they invite to witness this ancient, though perhaps some may think ridiculous, ceremony.

FROM Andernach we proceeded down the river to the castle of Hammerstein, situated east-ward of the river. I made a drawing of this castle, which is the subject of the twenty-second plate. Though it is situated on an immense rock, like many other subjects in this work ; to the artist and man of taste the design will appear very different, on account of the extensive opening in the distant prospect ; and because the horizon is very low. Part of the town appearing at the bottom of a rock in the centre, while the castle occupies the summit ; the river broad and majestic, and leading the eye to distant buildings, which are in fact three distinct towns—all these form an interesting as well as a beautiful scene.

HAMMER-

HAMMERSTEIN was formerly the residence of the princes of Neuvid ; it afterwards suffered in the fluctuating fates of the contending powers of the empire. The property of the fortress is at this time disputed by the Elector of Cologne, and the Prince of Neuvid ; not by force of arms, but by something analogous to a chancery-suit, which gave me a sort of consolation. The cause has been before the imperial chamber at Wetzlaer three hundred years ; and the princes hope, in three hundred years more, the cause may be determined. On learning this anecdote of German jurisprudence, I thought of the tedious and ruinous proceedings in the courts of England with less regret and despondence.

THE castle is built of black marble : indeed the mountain consists principally of this stone. Springs of excellent water rise on it, and form a little river, remarkable for the flavour of its trout, and the plenty of its crabs. Whether these circumstances had any weight in determining to a fertile and pleasant valley, the original founders of a Bernardine convent, I will not pretend to judge. Fish, corn, wine, and almost every thing necessary to earthly gratification, are in great plenty in this little paradise : and the abbot possesses what is here called the right of high
and

and low justice. The barons of Hammerstein always preside in the abbey.

THE construction of the old castle is very remarkable. The halls within are large; the chimney-pieces of fine marble, tolerably sculptured; and the paintings in fresco are still fresh. It contains a well a hundred feet deep; the water of which is very good. There are also caves communicating with the building, immensely large, and called the Devil's Caves. No man in this country would venture to lodge in the castle, as it is said to be haunted by spirits. The people on the borders of the Rhine seem to be uncommonly superstitious; and the priests have not neglected to profit by their folly. There are little chapels in the middle of fields, where the women resort at their pleasure, and dress the saints in any fantastical manner. The Electors of Cologne and Treves issued commissions to undress the saints; and the old women formed processions, and attempted a revolt. They artfully diffused an opinion that such violence would affect the approaching vintage; and if the frost had in any unusual degree injured the vines, a commotion would have taken place.

THERE

THERE is a convent of female Capuchins at Lintz, who are singularly employed by the inhabitants of the surrounding country ; for they derive a revenue by caponing young fowls, for which their blessed hands are deemed peculiarly qualified.

THE people of Hammerstein and Lintz are by no means sociable, like those of Andernach. The doors of their houses are generally shut ; and they seem to live like wolves.

OPPPOSITE to Hammerstein is the castle of Reineck. It stands on a beautiful, lofty, and pyramidal mountain ; richly cloathed with woods and vines, variegated by broken ground and rugged rocks ; and surrounded by immense hills. A view of this scene is given in the twenty-fourth plate. The castle being at an astonishing height, is rendered conspicuous by the bright cloud behind it ; contrary to the general rule of placing the principal light on the principal object ; which in the present view is so small, that it would not attract notice so well in light as in shadow : and it is humbly imagined, if the principal object be particularly conspicuous, it matters not whether it be by light or by shadow. The two villages at the
bottom

bottom seem placed on purpose to give variety ; and the light on the rock in the centre, relieves most pleasingly the church of Umkel or Unkel ; and the dark front-ground and high trees are so strong as to throw off all the other objects to their proper distance. The whole forms a scene which astonishes the mind, and fills it with awful sentiments.

IN 1784, during the festival of Christmas, and in the middle of the night, this castle and the new buildings annexed to it took fire. Every thing consumable around it was reduced to ashes ; and the old castle only left : for the Rhine was frozen twelve feet deep, and no water could be obtained in any time to be of use.

THE village at the foot of the hill is called Lower Reineck ; the castle, by way of eminence, Reineck. The inhabitants have little or no communication, and are hardly at peace with the people on the other side of the Rhine. The enmity has subsisted more than three hundred years. In an engagement under the Emperor Charles the Fourth, the people of Lintz massacred those of Andernach and Reineck, sparing only two men, whose ears they cut off, and sent them to the widows and children

dren of the deceased, with the news of their misfortune. Mass is said yearly on St. Bartholomew's day, at Andernach, for the repose of the souls of those who were thus massacred. All the peasants of the surrounding country are obliged to attend, or to pay a fine of two gold florins. An inflammatory sermon, or homily, is pronounced against the people of Lintz; none of whom presume to be present, as they would certainly be put to death. So great is the effect of this pious mode of perpetuating animosity, that only one native of Lintz has ventured to settle at Andernach in three centuries; and he is obliged to retire every year on the day the sermon is pronounced.

At the distance of less than a league, and in our progress towards Cologne, we took a slight view of Rowland-Sheitz, which had served as a retreat to an Elector of Cologne, of the name of Thenigsche, who retired into it with a beautiful Protestant lady. The Chapter of Cologne, probably more alarmed at the Protestantism, than scandalized at the crime, blocked up the castle. The lover and his mistress, however, escaped to Strasburg, where he married her, and sacrificed his religion at the shrine of beauty.

IN going up to this old castle, we saw a large and nearly modern building, which is becoming a ruin. The church is served by hermits, who sell wine, and are Shoe-makers. The tombs of princes, and the Gothic inscriptions, render the inside of the church picturesque. The hill is surrounded by villages well peopled ; and the Protestants of Cologne have had permission to build a church here, from the chamber of Wetzlaer, or rather by the power of the late emperor ; but the Catholics have destroyed every attempt toward erecting the edifice, and the poor Protestants must wait the full effect of the French Revolution on the spirit of the German governments, to obtain a peaceable toleration of their public worship.

THE objects of my tour did not require our continuance at Bonne ; of which we took a cursory view, as it lay in our way. It is a beautiful town : the streets wide ; the fortifications in order ; and the palace and gardens of the Elector of Cologne, though regular and formal, are extensive and grand. The situation is at the extremity of a plain ; the river, unconfined by hills, is not much less than a mile in breadth ; and the walks on its banks are beautiful and pleasant.

WE

WE proceeded to Cologne. The first appearance of this celebrated city ; the numerous steeples ; the forest of masts ; and other indications of population and industry, greatly raised our expectations. But on entering the town, they were greatly disappointed. The streets are narrow and dirty ; the houses old, decaying, and intermixed with numerous ruins.

IF we had wished to continue, the insolence and extortion of the officers at the gates ; the conduct of the servants at the inn ; the rudeness and nastiness of the common people ; the multitudes of audacious beggars, intermixed with dirty abbés and monks : in short, the general symptoms of decline and depravity, under the influence of an incurable superstition and bigotry, would have altered our intention.

THE trade of the quay is in the hands of a few foreigners ; and seems to have little or no influence on the manners or prosperity of the whole city.

NOTHING remarkable occurred between Cologne and Aix la Chapelle. At the gate of that celebrated city, we were stopped, as usual on the continent ; and after
giving

giving an account of ourselves, were admitted ; and we put up at the *Cour de Londres*. I remained some time at Aix la Chapelle, as I had been advised to drink the waters ; and I date the commencement of my recovery to the use of them. Not foreseeing, however, that the benefit I should derive from the waters, would induce me to remain there a longer period than I had allotted, in the general arrangement of my tour, I immediately surveyed the city and its neighbourhood as an artist.

I WENT to the public walks, which are something like the Mall in St. James's Park : but the carriages go in the middle ; and the walks being covered with loose sand, the company is greatly incommoded by dust. The canal, lying parallel to the walks, adds greatly to the first effect of them on the beholder. It is a circumstance so important, that I have introduced it in the three following drawings. On the border of this canal, a beautiful view of the abbey of St. Adelbert offered itself : and I have rendered it the subject of the twenty-fifth plate. The lofty steeple in the centre very happily assists the form. The canal or mote, the high walls, &c. give an idea of security and strength. The gardens within are nearly concealed ; the houses are painted red, except the roofs, which

which are of slate; the trees in the corner throw off the building, &c. to a proper distance from the front.

TURNING my face a contrary way, I took a view of a part of the town, which is the subject of the twenty-sixth plate. In this view, the Port de Cologne, or the gateway towards Cologne, is in the centre. This gateway is in the Flemish style; and forms similar to it are familiar to those who have studied Teniers and other Flemish painters. A part of the town appears beyond the gateway. A wall surrounds the mote, on an elevated bank. The dwarf wall divides the mote, and is covered with herbage. The walk is distinctly seen between the rows of trees, which are lofty and beautiful. The principal light is upon the town and gateway, as they are the most important objects, and occupy the centre. The dark house and garden in the front, throw off the building behind, and give great force to the light.

AT one of the terminations of the walks, near the gate called Port de St. Adelbert, I had another view of the town across the mote, which I thought picturesque, and which is the subject of the twenty-seventh plate. The building in front is part of a gateway to a bridge and a guard-

guard-house, supported by an arch thrown over the street. The building furnishes a pleasing form for the centre of the picture. The tower is a part of the fortification ; and the distant high buildings are some of those seen in the front of the twenty-sixth plate.

IN walking up a high hill called St. Celestin, and commanding an extensive prospect of the country, I saw a pleasing effect of light and shadow, on a subject very different from any thing in this publication. If it be not romantic, like most of the former views, it may not be the less agreeable to those who have studied and admired the Flemish style. The lights being near the centre ; the variety of broken ground ; the richness of the sand-bank ; and the pleasing forms of the trees—render it a subject not unworthy of this work.

THE first impressions made on me at Aix la Chapelle were rather favorable. I was comfortably lodged ; and my expences were not enhanced either by violence or imposition. But these circumstances were owing to the personal character of the landlord, which influenced that of his family. Prince Galitzin occupied the next apartment to mine. He lived in a retired manner, though in an hotel.

hotel. His principal amusement was playing on the violin ; which he did like a master. Princess Gandarine had apartments below. She had frequent concerts ; and seemed to be always visiting or visited.

THE mode of living in the hotel amused and pleased me for a few days. At dinner we had a band consisting of a female who played on the violincello, a female performer on the French-horn, two men who played on the violin, and one on the clarinet : and they performed very well. In the evening three women attended, who sung charmingly in parts. They had a good choice of songs, good voices, executed generally with taste, and contributed considerably to our amusement. But these things soon became familiar ; and I applied my leisure hours to obtain some information concerning this celebrated city.

AIX LA CHAPELLE is situated on the southern confines of its own territory, which, though it extend not above one German mile in diameter, bears the pompous title of the empire of Aix la Chapelle. The town is very ancient, and occupies the first rank among the free cities of the holy empire. Formerly it was the place of coronation

nation of the German emperors ; but Frankfurt on the Main being, on account of its central situation, deemed more convenient for the meeting of the electors, Aix la Chapelle was deprived of the advantages which the circulation of specie at so august and expensive a ceremony used to produce ; and the magistrates now content themselves with sending to Frankfurt some earth, said to be part of that on which flowed the blood of St. Stephen, when he was beheaded. The new chosen emperor takes his oath standing on this earth, which to Aix la Chapelle affords perhaps some matter of pride, and occasions the expence of a deputation to Frankfurt.

THE government of Aix la Chapelle is democratical. The magistracy, composed of one hundred and sixty-three members, are chosen every year from the different trades and professions. Every trade, in a body corporate, presents eight members to the sitting magistrate, or magistracy, who out of them select four ; and these four replace four other members of the old magistracy ; so that, properly speaking, one half only of the sitting senate is changed every year. This body called the magistrate, elect a *Burgermeister*, who is their president, and the executor of their decrees. He is likewise elected every

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year,

year, and when his time is expired, is made treasurer of the town, and keeps his seat in the senate as an assessor or assistant to the newly chosen burgermeister for the year following; at the expiration of which he may be, and often is re-elected; especially when possessed of those arts, by which an able politician seldom fails to captivate the minds of the public.

THE magistrate is divided into the grand and little council: the former meets only four times a year, and is exclusively invested with the legislative power; the latter consists of one fourth of the grand council, and meets every week for the administration of justice and the regulation of the police.

THE grand and little council have their meetings at the town-house, an ancient Gothic building of tolerably good architecture; but rather defaced by pretended modern improvements, which do not altogether harmonize with the rest of the edifice.

THE Elector-Palatine, as Protector of Aix la Chapelle, names a mayor, called *Mayer*, who represents him, and presides chiefly over the police. He is at the same time president

president of the *Schoffen-Stuhl*, a magistracy consisting of fourteen members, who have the exclusive right of deciding in all civil and criminal causes concerning foreigners, and together with the town-magistrate judge the civil causes of the inhabitants.

THE revenues of Aix la Chapelle amount to ninety thousand rix-dollars, eleven thousand seven hundred and forty pounds sterling, and arise from the land-tax, duties upon foreign goods, the excise on wine, beer, brandy, meat, and the tolls on the gates and roads. This sum, though small, would be more than sufficient for the expence of the state, if the exchequer were managed with propriety; and if, by the impolitic conduct of some of the burgermeisters, the town had not been involved in difficulties with the Elector-Palatine, which, together with the civil commotions now prevailing, occasion repeated commissions from the chamber of Wetzlaer, and much embarrass the public funds.

IT is a general observation, that all nations are more or less influenced by a public spirit; this spirit is different in different countries. In Prussia, for instance, it is warlike, and aims at conquest; in Holland it is commercial

and peaceful ; Great-Britain worships Mercury and Mars alternately ; and her merchantmen employed either in exporting her industry to foreign countries, or in importing the productions of the four parts of the globe, are attended by a powerful navy, which protects them, and keeps her enemies in awe. The government of Aix la Chapelle seems to be actuated by a third kind of publick spirit, that of gambling ; and if from effects we may infer causes, the most striking instances of this spirit will appear every where. All diversions and amusements that may interrupt gambling, are discouraged, impeded, and often forbidden ; nay the roads, leading to neighbouring places, situated on foreign territories, where gaming-houses have been established in competition with those of Aix la Chapelle, are suffered to decay and rendered impracticable ; and if report, which but too often speaks truth, may be credited, the late revolution had its origin in gaming, and the rioters were supported out of the funds of the gaming tables. Hence the ill-bred insolence of the monopolizers of the Pharo-bank, the deserted walks, the wretched troop of comedians, and the want of good society.

THE

THE cathedral, called *Munster*, a bold Gothic pile, was built by Charles the Great, and by him dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It has been repaired, and in some measure modernized ; by which alteration its original beauty is impaired.

IN the middle of this church lie the remains of its founder. The tomb of this great emperor is level with the ground, and would remain totally concealed from the eye of the traveller, if a huge smoked crown of more than twelve feet in diameter, suspended over it by a chain from the dome of the church, did not rouse his curiosity, and occasion an enquiry into its meaning. This crown, if report may be credited, is of massy gold ; but if it actually were so, it probably would soon be converted into coin.

IN this cathedral are likewise preserved several relics, for which the Roman Catholics shew much veneration. They consist of a shift of the Virgin Mary ; the swaddling-band of Our Saviour ; the sash, which he had wrapt round his waist, when he was crucified ; and a piece of linen, which St. John had tied over his eyes, when he was beheaded. These relics are, during a whole fortnight, publicly

publicly exhibited to the faithful from one of the towers of the cathedral; and if they have not operated wonderful miracles, have contributed to the circulation of specie, by the concourse of bigoted multitudes. After the time of shewing them, they are locked up in a chest, to which a new key is made during each exhibition, and which being cut in two, the wards are given to the magistrate, and the other part kept by the chapter.

Not many years since, an ancient superstition still prevailed, that no corn would grow during seven years in Hungaria, if a deputation of some of the natives of that country did not assist at this famous exhibition. But the late emperor put a stop to this pilgrimage of vagabonds, at the risk of starving the rest of the orthodox inhabitants of that plentiful part of his dominions. This laudable prohibition saved the magistrate of Aix la Chapelle the trouble and expence of regaling the wandering gentry upon dry pease and bacon, which the reigning burgermeister used to serve them up, in the dress of a cook, at an hospital, appropriated for that ceremony, as insignificant in itself as it was degrading to the dignity of a magistrate.

THE

THE canons of the chapter enjoy a revenue of about one thousand rix-dollars, and among their number, count the emperor of Germany and the king of Prussia, who have substitutes to perform their functions, and they receive half pay, no more being allowed them by the chapter.

BESIDES the cathedral, there are four parishes at Aix la Chapelle, viz. St. Folian, St. Peter, St. James, and St. Adelbert. The cure or rector of St. Folian has the title of arch-priest, and his seat in the chapter of the cathedral. He is the president of the synode, who decide in all spiritual matters and matrimonial causes, under the sanction of the bishop of Liege.

THE parish of St. Adelbert ought to be distinguished from the collegiate church of the same name. The canons of St. Adelbert in former times enjoyed a greater revenue than those of the Munster. But their possessions, chiefly situated in the province of Zealand, having been swallowed up by the sea, they are now reduced to the trifling sum of three hundred rix-dollars per annum. Their collegiate church is remarkable for being built over
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the parish church, to which you descend by a stair-case, under the choir of the collegial.

THE insignia of the German empire, kept at Aix la Chapelle, and carried to Frankfurt at each coronation, are the Gospel, and the sword of Charles the Great. That emperor is said to have been of a gigantic size; and if his slippers, which are also carried to the coronation, were actually worn by him; his figure, which at Aix la Chapelle is yearly twice carried in procession, is by no means too tall.

THIS figure is about fifteen feet high; the head made of wax, and the body of wicker-work; it is dressed in a yellow tunic, with the crown on its head; the cathedral on the left arm, and the sceptre in the right hand. It is carried on the shoulders of a man, who is concealed under it so as to make it appear to walk itself.

IN the holy week there are two more processions; in one of which Christ is represented lying in the grave upon a handsome bed, with bolster, pillows, blankets, and counterpane. And in the other, a considerable number of penitent barefooted bigots, cloathed in sackcloth, carry

carry heavy wooden crosses on their shoulders ; by which ceremony they presume to expiate the extravagancies committed in Shrove-tide. Their leader is the guardian of the Recolets, who is loaded with an enormous cross, which however is rumoured to be hollow. Besides this he has an assistant in Nicodemus, who to the Jewish custom generally adds a whim of his own, and wears a half-penny roll as a button to his hat. The reverend fathers Recolets, who seldom neglect an opportunity, where money may be acquired, charge sixpence for the apparel of each person that assists at this religious masquerade.

THE principal manufactories of Aix la Chapelle are needles and woollen cloth. They export the former chiefly to Germany and France, and a few to the Archipelago. The situation of the town is well calculated for the cloth manufactory, on account of the number of small rivulets by which it is intersected, and whose waters are fit for dying. They export a very considerable quantity of this manufactory to Germany, and the North ; but the greatest part of the coarse cloth to the Archipelago, by the way of Ancona and Senigaglia.

THOUGH

THOUGH this branch of industry might be thought to produce great advantages to the town; wealthy manufacturers are but few in number, and bankruptcies more frequent than in any other place; which may be attributed to the redundancy of competitors in the same line: to a natural propensity of the inhabitants to idleness and extravagance; and more particularly to their fondness of gaming, for which they have too frequent opportunities in the watering season.

THE watering season opens the first of May, and concludes at the end of August. The waters are drank and applied in the form of baths. Their chief basis is sulphur, which adheres in large lumps to the walls of the well. This sulphur is deemed very precious, and presents of it are made to those princes and crowned heads, who either visit the waters, or occasionally travel by way of Aix la Chapelle.

FORMERLY these salutary wells occasioned a great resort of people, afflicted with different diseases. Now Aix la Chapelle is the place for sharpers, who perform the most successful cures upon the unwary idlers, who there hunt after pleasure and diversion.

THE

THE Pharo-table, a few years since, was monopolized at the price of sixty thousand rix-dollars, paid to the magistrate for an exclusive privilege of fifteen years, by one man, who is said to have made a considerable fortune by the profits. The EO table, hazard, pafs-dix, trente et quarante, biribi, and la belle, succeed each other ; and the spot is not wanting in opportunities to cure the amateurs of an indigestion in their purses, if the rapacity of the inn-keepers should be absolutely baffled in totally removing the symptoms of this uncommon complaint.

THERE are two ridottos at Aix la Chapelle. The old building for this purpose, being but a common house, adapted for breakfasts, balls, and gaming, scarcely deserves any notice. The new one, erected within a few years, is defective in architecture, but spacious and elegant in its decorations.

THE company in the watering season decreases every year ; the cause of which must not be looked for in the effect of the waters, which actually, to many, have proved highly salutary. By some it is attributed to the vicinity of Spa, where it is pretended the company have better accommodations and greater liberty. By others, the origin

origin of its decline is ascribed to the want of amusement, and chiefly to the vexations from the synode, who often assume the right of enquiring into the validity of some pretended matrimonial connections of certain water-drinkers; and are accused of views, rather pecuniary than religious, in their moral severity; as they seldom fail to condemn the parties concerned to a considerable fine in case of prevarication.

THE environs of Aix la Chapelle are very rural, and some of them delightfully romantic. The inhabitants are possessed of a natural turn for wit, and have a disposition for many accomplishments: yet from the impediments of superstition, bigotry, carelessness, or habit, the causes of their ignorance; literature and science are very little cultivated among them; and their sole delight seems to be the bottle, the tobacco-pipe, and the gaming table.

THE chapel of St. Salvator on the hill, opposite the sand-pit, formerly belonged to a nunnery of Celestines, who having obtained leave from the pope to be transferred to the town, left the attendance of the chapel to a secular priest. The celestial virgins, however, seem not

to have been totally divested of all attachment to worldly concerns ; for they took very good care of their revenues, and no income at all was left to the future ministers of the altar, who now are reduced to live upon the offerings of the town-pilgrims, who frequently visit this hermitage in Lent. The present clergyman, either for this reason, or to give an instance of apostolical humility ; after having performed his spiritual duty, tills his small portion of land with his own hands, and for want of cattle is often seen yoked to the harrow with his brother, a gentleman of the law ; a great many of whose brethren the world would be happy to see engaged in the same peaceful occupation.

IN an excursion from Aix la Chapelle, we visited the remains of a castle at the distance of three miles. It is called the Castle of Schonbert ; and is the subject of the twenty-ninth plate. But not being situated on an eminence, not being a place of strength, and there being no traces of a town of which it might have been the defence—I should have concluded it to have been a fortified monastery, rather than a castle. The situation is secluded and rural ; it is sheltered by a beautiful wood, and a large farm is annexed to it. The whole scene is
pittoresque

picturesque in its forms ; and the lights and shadows are happily disposed.

IN examining the spring, whence the waters come to Aix la Chapelle, we had a view of a little town called Borcet. The streets are wide ; the buildings large and handsome, but they are painted of a very deep crimson. It is situated on an eminence, and commands a good view of Aix la Chapelle, at a distance of two miles.

FROM Aix la Chapelle we proceeded to Liege. The streets of this city are very narrow, and the houses high. The great number of churches and monasteries indicate the prevalence of ecclesiastical power, if not an ecclesiastical government. The cathedral has all the grandeur which can well be given by size : but having been erected in parcels at different times, and by various architects ; it wants that symmetry and unity which add to the effect of large objects. The separate parts are worth notice ; being finished with great care, and with some taste. The walks by the river are broad, long, and beautiful ; the trees are noble and disposed with good effect.

THE

THE bishop of Liege is lord of the territory in a civil and ecclesiastical sense : but as a priest he is suffragan to the archbishop of Cologne.

THE fortifications do not appear to be strong ; and they are commanded by the neighbouring hills. The siege and capture of the place by the duke of Marlborough in 1702, are among the interesting traditions which the people of Liege relate with animation. The subjects of the late dissensions were discussed when we passed through the place.

THE magistrates pretend that Liege is an imperial city and a sovereign state. The bishop asserts, that by his election or appointment, he becomes absolute sovereign. It is known to Europe, how this question has been lately decided. The bishop is chosen by sixty major canons ; persons generally of noble extraction : and the ecclesiastical privileges are so great, that the bishopric is said to be the hell of women, the purgatory of men, and the paradise of priests. The women draw boats instead of horses ; dig, saw, and carry all kinds of heavy burthens ; and they are said to be coarsely fed, and are wretchedly cloathed when cloathed at all. All the men,
except

except the nobles, who are mostly priests, are at the will and disposal of their spiritual masters: and are not inaptly said to be in purgatory. The priests have here truly a paradise. Their revenues and power are so great, that many of the princes of Europe have made interest to obtain the ecclesiastical dignities.

ON the borders of the Maese, we saw several gentlemen's houses, like those on the banks of the Thames. They are called castles, though without fortifications, or any appearances to distinguish them from gentlemen's seats. The castle of Shoquiere is an exception, and possibly a specimen of those castles which formerly occupied the banks of the Maese, in the situations of the present villas.

THE castle of Shoquiere is a modern building: situated on a rock extremely high and craggy. Its appearance is romantic and beautiful; and I have rendered it the subject of the thirtieth plate. The rock rises with grandeur, and is broken into a variety of parts. The cavity beneath it affords a forcible shadow to the surrounding lights: nor is the lime-kiln an indifferent object, where so many circumstances concur to form a pleasing picture.

WE

WE proceeded to the abbey of Floan ; where a romantic and beautiful scene opened on us. The abbey, the principal object, is wholly surrounded with light. The two small distant buildings are oratories, or chapels, having images for adoration : the front rock is nearly covered with ivy and bushes of underwood ; and the trees are happily disposed to give the effect of contrast.

IN the evening we arrived at Hui. I made a sketch of the town from the window of my apartment ; and I have rendered it the subject of the thirty-second and the last plate of this work. This is almost wholly a town-scene ; in which the houses, churches, &c. are not only numerous, but in great variety. The mountain behind the town is rendered rich to the eye, by a plantation of trees at one end, by brush-wood at the other, and by vines in the centre. A village just appearing on one of its sides has a good effect.

THE principal light is on the church and the stone bridge. At one corner a part of the cathedral appears : I could not introduce the whole without changing a point of view, in which I had the best assemblage of objects, with the river Maese in the front of the scene.

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FROM

FROM Hui, we proceeded to Namur ; at the confluence of the Maese and Sambre. It is one of the strongest towns in Europe. The castle and the forts are formidable fortifications. It is the see of a suffragan bishop ; and though the district is only thirty miles by twenty-eight, it contains eight cities, three hundred villages, besides abbies, religious houses, and churches, which it would be difficult to number. It would not be easy to estimate the prosperity and happiness of this province, if it possessed a mild government, a mild religion ; and if Namur were not considered as one of the military keys to the Netherlands. Namur possesses a provincial council, a town magistracy, and a feudal court called Balliage.

WE arrived at Namur during the dispute between the late emperor and the people, or rather the aristocracy and clergy of Brabant. The tendency of superstition in Flanders is so strong, that the Roman Catholic priests influence the springs of all civil, as well as ecclesiastical policy. The accumulation of wealth in the church, interfered with the views of the civil power : and the late emperor, affecting to consider that wealth as public property, seized considerable portions of it for his own use.

I COULD

I COULD not learn, that the proceeding of Joseph the Second against the church, would have been disagreeable, either to the nobles or the people, if they had participated in the effects; the former by a division of plunder, the latter by a relief from oppression. But the money was all carried to Vienna; and the ecclesiastical depredations alienated all orders of men in the Netherlands, and united them in a plan of revolt.

HENRY the Eighth of England had furnished an example, so remarkable, that it is wonderful the emperor should have overlooked it. The national assembly of France have abundantly profited by that instruction; and by dividing the ecclesiastical spoil into numerous lots, and constituting by their sale a numerous yeomanry, they strengthened their interest, and almost ensured the revolution. I speak not of the justice or piety of these measures; but merely of that policy, to which the late emperor paid little or no attention.

THE gates of Namur were guarded, on one side by the military on the other by the Bourgeois: the emperor's answer to the Flemish requisitions was expected; and the country was agitated with such apprehensions, that they took

us for German spies ; a mob immediately surrounded us ; and it was with little effect that we declared we were English. We underwent a severe examination, by a gentleman deputed for the purpose, and who understood French. He was soon convinced that the suspicion was groundless ; asked our pardon ; and treated us with civility. He invited us to see the volunteers performing their exercise. This seemed to us to be done in a puerile and awkward manner. They threw up their firelocks into the air, and caught them ; and changed their places and positions in the ranks at pleasure : their officers apparently permitting them to do as they liked. Their uniform was handsome, a dark brown faced with yellow ; and being tall, well-formed men, they were warmly contrasted by the opponents of the emperor to the troops of that prince, who wore dirty white frocks, like those of our waggoners, and made probably of the same materials.

So general was the interest taken in this dispute, that the female servant who shewed us our apartment at the hotel, complained of incessant fatigue from disturbances and riots ; and she freely gave it as her opinion, that to obtain peace and quiet, the people should submit to the emperor. The mistress over-hearing her, entered in a violent

violent passion ; and having severely reprimanded and dismissed her, she waited on us even at table. Not a word could be obtained from her, on public subjects ; and a kind of ominous sullenness prevailed in the house, until ten o'clock, when the emperor's answer arrived, containing a peremptory requisition of obedience. An immediate but desultory battle took place between the military and the volunteers : and not being disposed to shed our blood for either party, we ordered a chaise ; but no horses could be obtained till four in the morning, when we made our escape ; and we had reason to approve our prudence, on learning that at an early meeting of the council the same morning, orders were issued that no stranger should leave the town, but should immediately bear arms. We must have assisted in the general assault made by the town on the garrison, and in taking the emperor's troops prisoners.

WE proceeded to Brussels ; and put up at the hotel d'Angleterre. The landlord was an officer in the volunteers : and the military preparations seemed to be here as brisk as at Namur. Among these volunteers, an English Taylor was highly distinguished ; for he not only discredited the common proverb respecting persons of his trade,

but

but was deemed equal in strength, courage, and military dexterity, to three ordinary men : he was therefore much esteemed.

OUR plan was to examine this celebrated town at leisure ; to proceed to Antwerp, on account of its collection of paintings ; and then hasten to England. But the confusion throughout the Netherlands disappointed us ; for travellers were often subject to ill treatment, one party attacking them if they wore cockades, as the signal of resistance, and others if they did not wear them.

BRUSSELS is not only the capital of Brabant, but of the Austrian Netherlands. We were charmed with the distant prospect ; and though it be irregular on a near inspection ; the beauty of many of the houses and squares ; the magnificence of its cathedral, town-house, and other public buildings, render pleasing even such a view of it as we were permitted to take.

THE park belonging to the imperial palace is preserved though the palace be no more ; and it is a great privilege to the inhabitants, to be permitted to walk in it. We contemplated with peculiar interest, the villa at its extremity,

mity, which Charles the Fifth built after abdicating the empire.

THE collections of Italian and Flemish paintings in the palaces of this city would have afforded us high gratification: but civil war is unfavorable to taste, and we found it adviseable to drop all thoughts of attempting to view them.

THE lower part of the city, called Rivage, is cut into canals, in the manner of the Dutch towns. A canal extends from Brussels to the Schelde, about fifteen miles: the boats are drawn by horses at the rate of three miles an hour: and the fare of a passenger is a little more than two pence English money for every hour.

WE paid a short visit to the church of St. Gudula, an old Gothic building, promising little externally; but within highly adorned. The choir has several fine monuments, and is surrounded by several pretty chapels. The chapel of the Three Hosts is very remarkable. It is constructed wholly of marble, and the altar is of solid silver. These hosts are said to have been stabbed by a Jew, and to have bled. They are exposed on high festivals, with their
bloody

bloody stains, in a chalice richly set with diamonds ; and on the anniversary of the supposed attempt of the sacrilegious Jew, they are carried in procession round the city, attended by the governor of the province, the magistrates, and all the regular and secular clergy.

IN the hurry occasioned by the civil war, we could only glance at the two English cloisters, one of which is of Dominican ladies, of which a lady of the NORFOLK family is always abbess. It was founded by Cardinal HOWARD in the reign of Charles the Second.

THERE is a singular part of Brussels, which is in fact a little town ; for it is inclosed by a wall and ditch, and divided into streets. It is called the Beguinage. The number of Beguines is near a thousand, governed by matrons, and under the spiritual direction of the bishop of Antwerp.

THE superstitious character of the Brabanters is discernible in almost every thing. Their attachment to particular numbers is scrupulous : seven principal streets lead into the market-place, in which are seven stately palaces appertaining to the senate, &c. ; their parish churches are
seven ;

seven ; the public gates seven ; their ancient noble families, and their licensed midwives are seven.

WE were informed, that in peaceful times, the inns are equal to any in the world : their ordinaries or tables d'hote being remarkably elegant and cheap. We found the wines good and reasonable.

IN this city the council of state, the privy-council, that of finances, of war, and the feudal court of Brabant are assembled. The trade is in camblets, laces, and tapestries ; which the Brabanters convey to every part of Europe.

FROM Brussels, we proceeded to Lille. We had the misfortune here to find the spirit of discontent in full operation. I speak as a traveller, when I call it a misfortune. I am not sufficiently a politician, to give an opinion on the principles and conduct of the French revolution. The government has been considered as despotism, though mild, and often wise in its administration. Of that despotism it was difficult for a traveller to perceive the traces. For the urbanity of the French manners, the hospitality of the nation, and the particular disposition of the
the

the common people to favor the inhabitants of a country where they imagined the common people to be held in consideration, rendered travelling in France at all times pleasing to an Englishman.

ON approaching Lille, and hearing that a spirit of innovation or improvement was actuating all the dominions of the French monarch, we prepared our minds for a repetition of those scenes which had driven us out of Austrian Flanders: and expected to be questioned on that admired constitution of England, which we supposed the object of imitation wherever liberty was sought. But we were greatly mistaken.

PERHAPS in all the history of mankind, there has not been another instance, in which superstition has totally and at once lost its dominion over the people. In Brussels and Namur, we saw two powers disputing for a prize, the government of the people. In French Flanders, and on the borders of France, the people, even to the lowest mechanics, seemed to be engaged in one effort, to demolish despotism, civil and ecclesiastical.

To

TO an Englishman, on passing the streights of Dover, no circumstance of contrast was usually so strong in the comparative manners of England and France, as their external attention to the ceremonies of religion. Dover has as little religion in external manners, as HOBBS or SPINOZA would have recommended. The moment an Englishman landed at Calais, he was struck with persons kneeling to images at every corner of a street, and this spirit seemed to acquire influence and strength, as he advanced in the country. Who could have imagined, that a people so superstitious should at once throw off the yoke of the ecclesiastics, and appear, as they actually do, to abhor them?

THIS seems to be the effect of the oppressive and violent despotism of the church of Rome; and is a reason we should cherish and encourage the spirit of moderation, which actuates the church of England; and that all ecclesiastical governors should hold it as a certain principle, that moderation is the best security for the permanence of their power.

IN Lille, instead of seeing the political and ecclesiastical powers at war; we found both at the feet of the people.

And

And it seemed the more extraordinary, as Lisle is a garrison town, near the extremities of the French dominions: and under all governments, even those most favorable to liberty, the military extremities are generally in the habits of slavery.—But among the wonders of the present period, not the least remarkable is, that the army in France has generally and warmly declared for liberty.

THE patriots at Lisle seemed to be favorably inclined towards Englishmen: but the French democrats do not forgive England the proceedings and objects of the American war. They are therefore more inclined to seek information from America than from England, where however they acknowledge the principles of liberty to be understood by individuals, and to have been preserved as a sacred fire for the future use of mankind.

BESIDES the general oppression of the French government, in its civil and ecclesiastical departments, there seems to be another cause of the late astonishing event, in the reserved privileges of the several provinces of the French monarchy.

WE

WE visited Lille and the borders of France, when the revolution was rather in contemplation than effected. And the first object of the people of French Flanders seemed to be the full enjoyment of their provincial privileges or liberties.

LISLE, on its surrender to the power of France, possessed states of its own ; and the king of France agreed to summon them annually for the assessment of taxes. But how those promises have been observed, I will not relate in the patriotic language of Lille. I have only to observe, that democratical or philosophical liberty was not the subject of conversation, or thought of when the revolution was in contemplation : and that it seemed to be the intention of French Flanders, to claim only its stipulated privileges.

IN this state of things, it may be supposed I did not take out my port-folio. It would have been thought unmanly in an Englishman to produce any books but those of SYDNEY, HARRINGTON, and LOCKE. On the first rumors of civil commotions, the arts are disregarded, suspended, and endure injurious violence. We therefore contented ourselves with contemplating Lille, which is a most important fortification, with a strong citadel and fort.

The

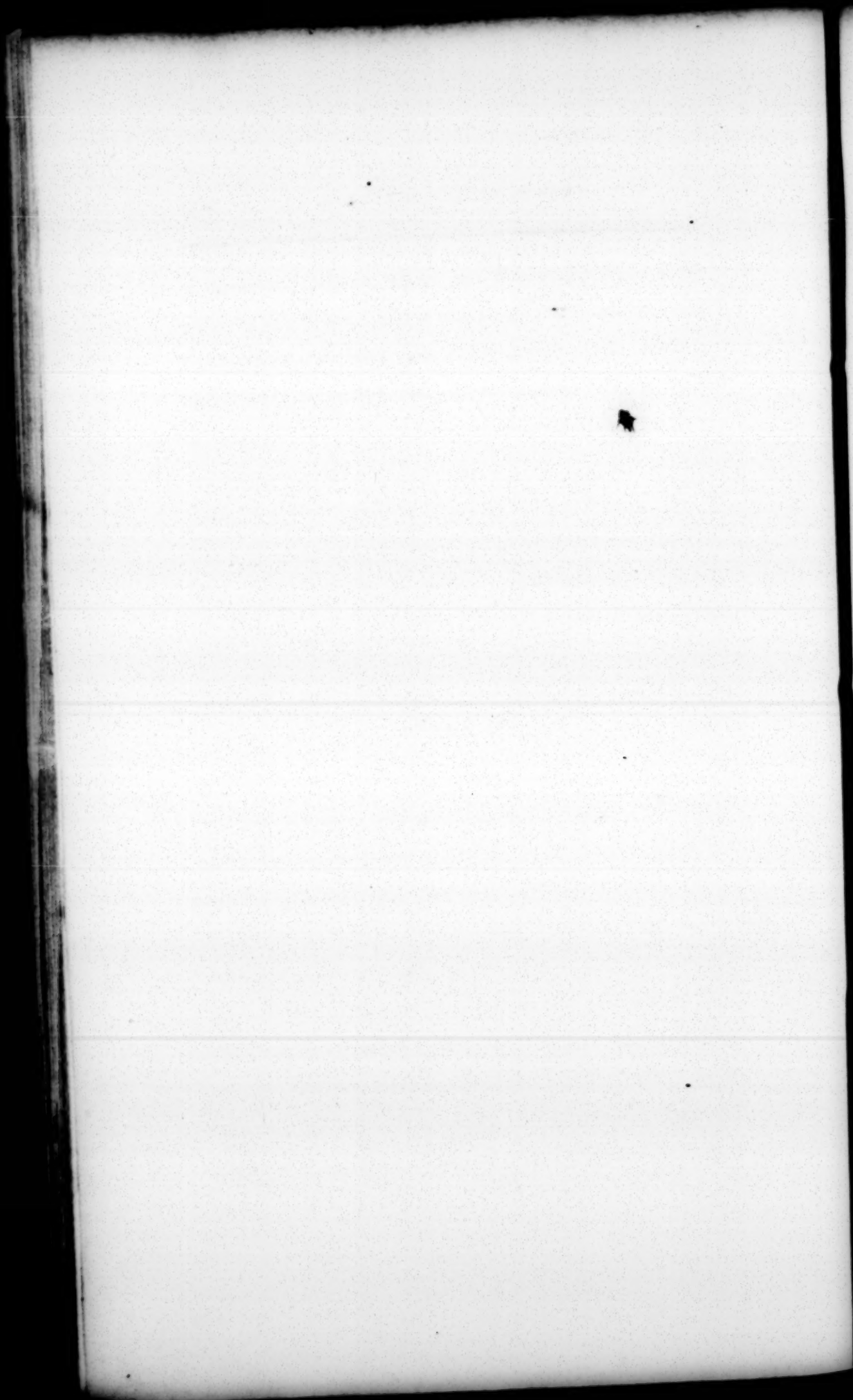
The town is large, well planned, and populous. It still possesses the forms, names, and some of the privileges of an intendancy, a mint, a castellany, a bailiwick, and a forest-court. It has thirty churches, seven of which are parochial, and one collegiate ; a great number of convents, and a noble hospital.

THE castellany of Lisle is divided into seven quarters, to which belong several towns, and a hundred and thirty-seven villages. It was fixed under the power of France by the treaty of Utrecht.

WE left Lisle and proceeded to Calais, and had a pleasant passage to Dover in four hours. The return to our native country was rendered doubly agreeable by the impressions made on our minds by the state of Flanders. For however desirable liberty may be deemed, the efforts to obtain it occasion some of the severest misfortunes of mankind. We experienced no personal injuries or direct insults ; but a suspicion and gloom pervaded all society, and the indications of approaching storms impressed our minds with apprehension and uneasiness. We were therefore inclined to apostrophise our native country on touching her happy shores—to charge Britain to guard
those

those blessings, which are sought on the Continent at every hazard ; to correct her errors ; and to stem those currents of corruption which may swell into torrents, and burst all the boundaries of that system of government which has hitherto rendered her so powerful and so happy.

THE END.



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